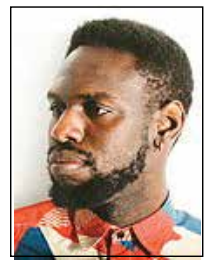
In this issue…

Maya Barzalai on golems at EMU

page 7



Anthony Russell musician in residence at BIC

page 7

2024 Maccabi Games comes to Detroit

page 18

Washtenaw Jewish News
2939 Birch Hollow Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

PRESORTED STANDARD
US POSTAGE
PAID
GREENVILLE, MI
PERMIT #339

WASHTENAW JEWISH NEWS

October 2023 Tishrei/Cheshvan 5784 Volume XXIV Number 2 FREE

Coming Soon: 36th Annual Ann Arbor Jewish Book Festival

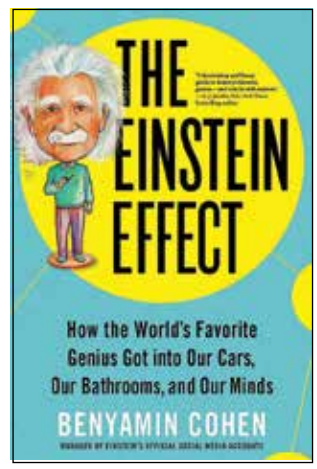
By Nat Bension, Director of Jewish

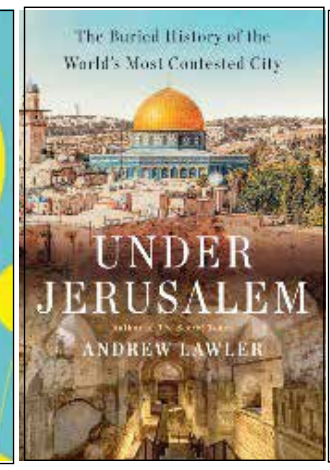
Cultural Arts and Education at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor

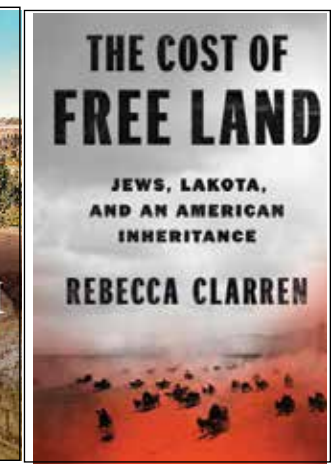
Mark your calendars for the 36th Annual Ann Arbor Jewish Book Festival! Join the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor and our community partners November 5–19 for two weeks of in-person, virtual, and hybrid events featuring a diverse array of authors bringing new works of fiction, nonfiction, and children's literature to Washtenaw County.

This year's program opens on Sunday, November 5, with a live, in-person conversation with Forward News Director and My Jesus Year author Benyamin Cohen on his new book, The Einstein Effect: How the World's Favorite Genius Got into Our Cars, Our Bathrooms, and Our Minds. The following evening, Rabbi Diana Fersko delivers a virtual talk on her timely nonfiction debut, We Need to Talk About Antisemitism, co-presented by the JCC and Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor.

The JCC is delighted to host a hybrid Lunch and Learn series throughout the festival, featuring Jennifer Rosner (Once We Were Home: A Novel), Rebecca Claren (The Cost of Free Land: Jews, Lakota, and an American Inheritance), Sylvie Bigar (Cassoulet Confessions: Food, France, Family and the Stew That Saved My Soul), Orwell Prize-winning columnist Jonathan Freedland (The Escape Artist: The Man Who Broke Out of Auschwitz to Warn the World), and Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Debby Applegate (Madam: The Biography of Polly Adler, Icon of the Jazz Age). Renowned television journalist and author Martin Fletcher will visit Ann Arbor for an in-person lunch with registered guests on Wednesday, November 8, at noon to discuss his latest memoir, Teachers: The Ones I Can't Forget.







Families with young children are invited to a hands-on composting workshop with Anita Pazner, author of The Topsy-Turvy Bus, on Sunday, November 12, at noon, and a live reading of The Museum of Lost Teeth by Elyssa Friedland the next morning. Jeff Bender (Apparel Has No Gender: Thoughtful Commentary from a Dad Raising a Transgender Child and Oh, I Just Didn't Know: 11 Thoughtful Conversations for Grandparents and Grandchildren) and middle-grade novelist A. J. Sass (Camp Quiltbag) will appear together on Tuesday, November 7, for an online discussion on parenting and transgender inclusion in the Jewish community.

Additional highlights of this year's program include Tablet Editor-at-Large and Unorthodox podcast host Liel Leibovitz (How The Talmud Can Change Your Life: Surprisingly Modern Advice from a Very Old Book), second-generation Holocaust survivor Anna Salton Eisen (The 23rd Psalm: A Holocaust Memoir), journalist and author Andrew Lawler (Under Jerusalem: The Buried History of the World's Most Contested City), fourth-generation retailer and debut novelist Martin Sneider (Shelf Life: A Novel), and Richard Hurowitz (In The Garden of The Righteous: The Heroes Who Risked Their Lives to Save Jews During the Holocaust).

More details about this year's scheduled

continued to page 6

Limmud Michigan returns to Ann Arbor

Mira Sussman, special to the WJN

For the first time since its inaugural event in March 2016, Limmud Michigan returns to Ann Arbor. The next Limmud Michigan celebration of learning will be on Sunday, October 29, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. at the Morris Lawrence building at Washtenaw Community College.

Limmud Michigan brings together people from all walks of life, ages, Jewish backgrounds, and interests from all over southeastern Michigan and beyond to spend the day learning about dozens of topics. The group is volunteer-driven and the event provides "Torah li'shma," or "learning for its own sake." This year will be the seventh Limmud event in Michigan.

There are opportunities for everyone, regardless of one's experience or background in Judaism. Limmud Michigan strives to be as "little d" democratic as possible, encouraging volunteer participation, open-mindedness, and involvement from people from all denominations and beliefs, and providing an atmosphere of joyful immersion in Judaism.

Limmud events happen all over the world, each with their own leadership, event schedule, and style. Over 80 Limmud groups exist in communities throughout the entire world; there is a Limmud event happening somewhere in the world nearly every week of the year.

Over the course of the day, Limmud Michigan participants can choose from around 40 sessions. There will be 8–10 sessions offered each hour throughout the day, covering top-

continued to page 4

Advertisers

Alex Milshteyn....3
Ann Arbor District Library....16
Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation....17
Ayse's Café....3
Bank of Ann Arbor....15
Bivouac....15
EMU Center for Jewish Studies....14
Frankel Center for Judaic Studies....27
Giraffe Design Build....19
Hurwitz-Greene Real Estate....14
Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County 10
Jewish Federation of Gr Ann Arbor. 5, 13, 15, 24
Jewish War Veterans....16
Leora Rubin Reinhart Realtors....2
Michigan Theater Foundation....5
Modern Mechanical....18
Pam Sjo, The Reinhart Company....3
Purple Rose Theatre Company....2
R. D. Kleinschmidt....2
The Guild of Artists & Artisans....13
University Musical Society....17
Jewish Communal Leadership Program....28
Wallenberg Medal and Lecture....27
Wolverine Tax & Financial....3
Zemyck Pottery....16

From the Editor

The spaces between

As I write this, the sun is about to set to begin erev Yom Kippur, a time that marks the distance between birth and death. Like evening itself, Yom Kippur is a time between. A time when perception of barriers fades and the gates to our aspirations can appear.

My life right now is also a time between. I am in the middle of moving my household back to my hometown of

St. Louis. I will continue editing and publishing the Washtenaw Jewish News, traveling up to Michigan for a few days near the end of each month to work on the paper's production and meet with people in the community. I really love producing the WJN each month and with all of our experience working remotely, I am confidant I can continue the paper even while primarily living 500 miles away. And spending a fair amount of time on the roads between (Illinois, Indiana, Ohio). Hello Amtrak!

Many years ago I had the responsibility of editing an article by a very well-known writer who used a word I was unfamiliar with. Okay, this happens all the time, as it should. But this time, it made me mad: why use an obscure (to me) word that I had to look up? I was sure if I didn't know its meaning, very few of the article's readers would know it. I replaced her word, "liminal," and substituted its definition, "the spaces between."

Over the ensuing decades, I've returned to the liminal over and over. When my brother, Rabbi Myron Kinberg z"l died in 1996 at age 51, I learned that sometimes the death of a dear one can tear the veil between life and death and we can enter the liminal space between. Now, I think about liminality as often as I can. What is in the space between two people, between the first and last pages of a book or newspaper, between two geographic locations?

At Apples and Honey this year, the annual fall welcoming event at the JCC, over a dozen people signed up to receive the WJN, a record number of new families. Please remember to send your change of address if you move. If you meet someone who doesn't receive the WJN but would like to (you don't have to be Jewish!), have them send in their address. When you patronize our advertisers (or go to any of the restaurants reviewed here), let them know you read about it in the WJN.

Enjoy those fall leaves! ■

JEWISH NEWS

2935 Birch Hollow Drive
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108
(734) 395-4438
www.washtenawjewishnews.org
CKinbergeditor@washtenawjewishnews.org

Editor and Publisher
Clare Kinberg

Advertising Manager
Pat Cowan

Design and Layout
Dennis Platte

Staff Writers
Hannah Davis, Lonnie Sussman

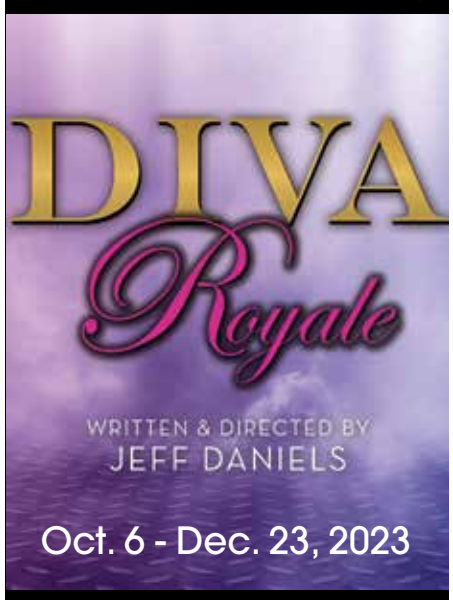
Contributing Writers
Nat Bension, Megan Bernard, Candace Bulkley, Drew Cole, Emily Eisbruch, Judith Endelman, Robert Erlwine, Trina Fuller, Karla Goldman, Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, Deborah Meyers Greene, Ariella Hoffman-Peterson, Ruth Kraut, Cantor Regina Lambert-Hayut, Joan Levitt, Marina Mayorski, Barbara McAnelly, Ariella Monson, Rabbi Haviva Ner-David, David Schoem, Ellen Schwartz, Mira Sussman

©2023, by the *Washtenaw Jewish News*. All rights reserved. No portion of the *Washtenaw Jewish News* may be reproduced without permission of the publisher.

Signed letters to the editor are welcome; they should not exceed 400 words. Letters can be emailed to the editor. Name will be withheld at the discretion of the editor.

Circulation: 4,500
Subscriptions:
Free inside Washtenaw County
$18 first-class subscription

the PurpleRose theatre company



Jeff Daniels' *Diva Royale* is coming back! First staged at The Purple Rose in 2018, this evening of side-splitting hilarity follows three midwestern stay-at-home moms whose love for Celine Dion makes them plan a last minute trip to New York City. With the return of the entire original cast, this crowd pleasing comedy is guaranteed to make you laugh 'til you cry.

734.433.7673 or
PurpleRoseTheatre.org

As a proud and active member of the Washtenaw County Jewish Community, I am dedicated to providing you with exceptional service for all of your real estate needs.

Leading REAL ESTATE COMPANIES OF THE WORLD

Leora Rubin
REALTOR®
Call/Text: 734-717-7441
2275 W. Stadium Blvd.
Ann Arbor, MI 48103
www.LeoraRubin.com
Leora@LeoraRubin.com

Leora Rubin REALTOR®
INTEGRITY • PASSION • RESULTS
Reinhart REALTORS

19960 Sharon Valley Rd.
MANCHESTER
734-428-8836
800-219-2100

RDK
R.D. Kleinschmidt, Inc.
We Build Our Reputation Around our Home
Serving You Since 1972

ROOFING - SIDING - GUTTERS

- Shingles & Flat Roofs
- Siding & Trim
- Seamless Aluminum Gutters
- Replacement Windows

Sharon Kleinschmidt
Richard Kennedy, owners

Phone numbers, websites, and addresses of organizations frequently listed in the calendar:

Ann Arbor Orthodox Minyan (AAOM): 1429 Hill Street, *248-408-3269, annarborminyan.org*

Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation (AARC): 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, *734-445-1910, aarecon.org*

Beth Israel Congregation (BIC): 2000 Washtenaw Ave, 734-665-9897, *bethisrael-aa.org*

Chabad House: 715 Hill Street, 734-995-3276, jewmich.com

Eastern Michigan University Center for Jewish Studies (EMU): www.emich.edu/jewish-studies/

Frankel Center: 202 S. Thayer St., lsa.umich.edu/judaic/

Jewish Community Center (JCC): 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, 745-971-0990, jccannarbor.org

Jewish Cultural Society (JCS): 2935 Birch Hollow Drive, 734-975-9872, jewishculturalsociety.org

Jewish Family Services (JFS): 2245 South State Street, 734-769-0209, jfsannarbor.org

Jewish Federation: 2939 Birch Hollow Drive, 734-677-0100, jewishannarbor.org

Pardes Hannah: 2010 Washtenaw Ave, 734-761-5324, pardeshannah.org

Temple Beth Emeth (TBE): 2309 Packard Road, 734-665-4744, templebethemeth.org

UM Hillel: 1429 Hill Street 734-769-0500, michiganhillel.org

"Art comes before anything else"

University and community members are invited to a lecture and opening of an interactive virtual exhibit on the art of Felix Lembersky. With images of her grandfather's work, University of Michigan alum Yelena Lembersky expands on her award-winning memoir, Like a Drop of Ink in a Downpour: Memories of Soviet Russia (2022), co-authored with her mother Galina Lembersky.

The family tenet, "Art comes before anything else," is actualized in the courageous struggle to preserve a father and grandfather's paintings in the face of Soviet oppression.

The virtual exhibition and the event are sponsored by the University of Michigan, LSA /College of Literature, Science, and Arts; Arts Initiative; Arts and Resistance LSA Theme Semester; Residential College; Weiser Center for Europe and Eurasia, and the Uniterra Foundation.
October 30 at 2:30–4:30 p.m.

Space 2435, North Quad, University of Michigan

105 South State Street, Ann Arbor

Refreshments and book signing to follow.■

Ayse's CAFÉ™
Turkish Dine-In / Take-Out / Catering
30th Anniversary Gala Dinner
Friday, Oct. 27, 2023
Reservations: Ayse at 734-662-1711 or ayse@aysescafe.com
Thanks Ann Arbor for your support!
Mon - Sat 12:00 -8:00 pm
1703 Plymouth Rd.,
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
www.aysescafe.com
Facebook • Instagram

Pam Sjo
Sounds like "so"
Ready to make a move?
Get the Results You Want with Service Tailored to Your Needs!
PAM SJO
REALTOR®
734-417-9199
psjo@reinhartrealtors.com
Reinhart
Charles Reinhart Company Realtors
734-665-0300

ALEX MILSHTEYN REAL ESTATE
MEET THE DREAM TEAM WITH THE MOST
LOCAL EXPERTISE

ALEX MILSHTEYN
DAWN YERKES
GUILLERMO FLEURQUIN
PAT ANDERSON
JUSTINE ANTHONY
ANN ARBAUGH
LAURA BENNETT
We are the top team in Washtenaw County and in the top 1% of Michigan Realtors.
AMY GODWIN
JADE MAZZOLA
NICK MAZZOLA
ZAK MOHLER
JULIE REIFF
FAYE ROWLAND
COURTNEY THOMPSON
Call (734) 418-2400 or visit us at alexmi.com.
ALEX MILSHTEYN Real Estate
2723 South State Street, Suite 300, Ann Arbor, MI 48104
An exclusive affiliate of Coldwell Banker Global Luxury

#1 IN YOUR TAX BRACKET
TO ENSURE YOUR SAFETY DURING THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES, OUR OFFICE OFFERS HASSLE-FREE, NO-CONTACT METHODS TO MINIMIZE FACE-TO-FACE APPOINTMENTS. IF IT'S TIME YOU GET A CLEAR PICTURE OF YOUR FINANCIAL FUTURE, WE CAN HELP.
GABRIEL SANDLER, EA
WOLVERINE TAX AND FINANCIAL
BOOK AN APPOINTMENT ONLINE
(734) 999-1040
WOLVERINETAX.COM
213 WEST LIBERTY STREET
SUITE 110

Antisemitism in Washtenaw County Schools: Concerns? Action!

By Ruth Kraut, special to the WJN

Imagine: An eighth grader walks into school and sees a swastika drawn in permanent marker on a desk. You're a 10th grader, and a friend of a friend says, "You're Jewish? That's why you have a big nose." You're an 11th grader, and a new friend tells you they have never met a Jew, and asks, "where are your horns?" Imagine overhearing a conversation where someone says, "I Jewed him down."

It's not hard to imagine this, is it? And that's because many WJN readers have experienced antisemitism — sometimes in a school environment. In fact, antisemitism in schools appears to be on the rise. Although Kansas City is not Washtenaw County, a recent survey of Jewish students in the Kansas City area showed that 75% of Jewish teens (yes, three out of four) had experienced anti-Jewish activities. This ranged from "Jew jokes" and "Holocaust-related insults or jokes" to stereotypes, antisemitic graffiti, and Holocaust denial. So, even if the percentages are lower here, there are still a lot of students feeling targeted.

On September 6, the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor's Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) held a meeting for parents to discuss starting a Parent Advisory Committee focused on supporting Jewish students and families in K–12 schools, both public and private, throughout Washtenaw County.

As framing for the evening, participants were given an article by University of Michigan Professor of History and Judaic Studies Jeff Veidlinger that characterizes antisemitic incidents into three categories: ignorance, provocation, and threat. Threats require immediate action; ignorance requires education. Veidlinger argues that provocation may require action, education, or even just ignoring it. This framing was helpful as people moved into breakout sessions and discussed their own personal experiences. Each group was asked to share their own experiences but also to talk about how they had responded if something had happened to themselves or one of their family members.

After the meeting, I was able to speak with Carol Ullmann, a parent who was present at the meeting and whose child experienced antisemitic bullying last year. She agreed to be quoted because, "I'm hoping to be a resource to others and create a community of people who want to talk about this."

Carol and her husband first learned something antisemitic was happening at their child's middle school when their eighth grader showed them an anonymous text she had received that day. The text said, "You stupid fucking Jew, go back to the fucking camps, go back to Amsterdam." [The reference to Amsterdam was likely because the eighth grade had recently read Anne Frank's Diary of a Young Girl.)

As Carol tells it, "One of [my daughter's] best friends had received a threatening message a month earlier from the same phone number, and that girl blew it off." Now, there was a second message.

As Carol and her daughter tried to figure out who sent the message, Carol learned of something very troubling. For a couple of months, a boy had been targeting her daughter at lunch, telling her every day that Hitler is great. "And my daughter would argue with him. And he would come back and do it again." She also didn't know that their daughter had spoken to a teacher about the lunchtime bully, who advised her to go to the principal. The daughter did not go to the principal, and the teacher unfortunately did not follow up. Naturally, the family suspected that this student also sent the text message.

With the text message as proof, Carol notified the school counselor, who brought in the principal and assistant principal. On the advice of a friend and law enforcement professional, they also notified the local police and the FBI. The school figured out that the message was from someone else entirely! So really, Carol's daughter was the target of antisemitic activity from two people. The student who sent the text message was suspended for three days, and her parents called Carol to apologize. The student who was glorifying Hitler was removed from the lunchroom but stayed in classes with Carol's daughter.

It was almost June. At eighth grade graduation, each student gets a few slides — with a baby picture, a recent picture, and a quote of their choosing. A few days before graduation, Carol's daughter came home and said that she had been told that the lunchroom bully had submitted graduation slides with a quote from Andrew Tate (self-professed misogynist, currently charged with rape and human trafficking) and soliciting a specific teacher ("Come with me this summer and I'll show you a good time.") Carol let the school administration know about that and made it clear: "I do not want this kid at the dance, at field day, or at graduation. He is bullying my kid." At that point — but only at that point — did the schools decide to suspend the lunchroom bully. He was still allowed to go to graduation.

The Ullmann family's experience was one of a few precipitating events that caused the newly-formed Jewish Community Relations Council to think about creating a Parent Advisory Committee.

There were about 25 people in the room at the meeting, primarily with children attending Ann Arbor schools, but also from other school districts and private schools. The majority of parents there had kids in middle school or high school. There were a wide range of responses and experiences. In my group, the experiences that individuals had with antisemitic attacks were less threatening or had been appropriately handled (and largely fell into the "ignorance" bucket), but in some of the other groups, people described much more troubling incidents. In some cases, parents and kids had ignored the comments — and in others, parents had tried to get support from the schools — sometimes with success, and sometimes without it.

As one might expect for a first gathering like this, there were a wide range of opinions and perhaps more questions than answers. At what point should we react? How should we react? What, exactly, is a parent to do? Especially when, as one parent said, "Not every kid wants a threat elevated." Another parent agreed, saying "The kids don't want to report everything. A lot of times things take place in a joking context." This parent then noted that although antisemitism is certainly one of the many forms of ethnic/racial intimidation, the fact that most Jews present as white can require a more nuanced understanding of how different forms of bigotry and oppression operate. That led another parent to suggest that — at least in Ann Arbor — getting involved with Ann Arbor School Parents Intent on Racial Equity (AASPIRE) could be helpful.

Many of the groups ended up talking about the role of social media. Whether it's a meme with antisemitic undertones (think: stereotypically Jewish moneylenders, or a meme with a swastika), or a non-Jewish friend texting a Jewish friend and using an anti-Jewish slur, parents reported that their kids' responses varied, and should be taken into account. And in some cases, the kids say, "Oh, J. is just joking around, it's no big deal." In other cases, the student doesn't realize that what their friend is sharing is actually antisemitic.

It's easy to say that K–12 staff and students should be educated about Judaism and antisemitism, but it's hard to do that work, and a lot of questions came up: How do you get these items into an already-packed school curriculum? Who should be educated? Jewish children and parents, or the broader community? What should be the focus of that education? In Washtenaw County, there are some schools with large numbers of Jewish kids, and others where there are just a handful, or even none. In different schools, the actions might look different. Many parents felt that it was very important to teach Jewish kids to recognize what antisemitism is and to teach them how to speak up and self-advocate.

Another big question was: What should be the role of Jewish students themselves in addressing antisemitism in the schools? Some parents felt that students are the experts of their own lives, and that students should be involved in crafting and designing any activities. Others felt that students wouldn't be interested.

And then of course, there was the question of crime and punishment. In many schools, suspension is the answer to bullying and antisemitic/racist remarks. One parent said, "Suspension does nothing. Three days and it's over. We need restorative justice." On the other hand, another parent countered, "Restorative justice takes a lot of training and skills." It also requires the students and families to be willing to participate. At the end of her family's ordeal, Carol said she wasn't sure she would have the "emotional bandwidth" to do that.

So, what next?

The Federation is trying to get a better idea of what kinds of threats/provocations are occurring. There will shortly be a form on their web page where you can report incidents — and they can be reported anonymously, if you prefer. The JCRC is planning follow-up activities as well. ■

Limmud Continued from Pg. 1

ics from Jewish culture to current events and text study. Presenters include known educators and figures in the community as well as volunteers — anyone can propose a session!

As always, many of the presenters are Washtenaw locals — Robert Dobrusin will present on "Jacob's Voice, Esau's Hands, and Isaac's Nose;" Genevieve Zubrzycki will present "Making Sense of Poland's Perplexing Jewish Revival;" Joel Goldstein will speak on "Making Mistakes So the Next Generation Can Succeed;" a panel will be led by Deborah Greene on the experiences of Jews of Color; Yael Keller will talk about "Being Thankful the Jewish Way;" filmmaker and visiting Frankel Fellow Tamar Kay will present on her recent project "Matir Agunot," ("Unchained," about women who are bound by Jewish divorce laws), Aviva Pa-

nush will explore troubling Torah texts, and so much more.

Limmud Michigan will also host presenters from outside of Michigan whose travel and accommodations are sponsored by foundations and organizations, including Rabbi Aliza Libman Baronofsky of Yeshivat Maharat in New York (courtesy of the Micah Philanthropies); Gabrielle Kaplan-Mayer from Philadelphia (a Covenant Award Scholar, courtesy of the Covenant Foundation); and Adam Mansbach from Los Angeles, author of best-selling books including the newly published The Golem of Brooklyn (courtesy of REBOOT).

This year's event will be sure to have something for everyone, including the joy of learning together in the same space.

For m
tion or to
www.limm
org. ■

Introducing NEXTGen A2: A fresh chapter for our community

By Ariella Hoffman-Peterson, NEXTGen A2 Coordinator

The Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor is thrilled to share exciting news that embodies growth, connection, and inclusivity. In a leap toward the future, we're excited to reveal the transformation of our young adult programming from "Jewish Young Professionals" to "NEXTGen of Greater Ann Arbor," affectionately known as "NEXTGen A2."

What's in a name? A lot!

This exciting shift is fueled by our deep commitment to a more vibrant, welcoming community. By changing our name to NEXTGen A2, we're aligning ourselves with similar groups across North America using "NEXTGen" to represent the next generation of leaders propelling the broader Jewish community forward. We're creating an open, inclusive space for individuals in their 20s and 30s, encompassing recent college graduates, graduate students, parents, professionals, and more.

Clarity and purpose

Our choice of NEXTGen A2 underscores our focus on nurturing the next generation of trailblazers, thinkers, and creators within the Greater Ann Arbor Jewish community. This modern and direct name better represents the diverse life stages we warmly embrace.

A journey into tomorrow

We're more than a name change; we're embarking on a journey of new experiences, deep connections, and meaningful impact. Together, we're steering the ship of Ann Arbor's Jewish community into a brighter tomorrow. Whether you're a recent graduate, a devoted parent, a dynamic professional, or just looking to connect, NEXTGen A2 is your space.

Join us on this thrilling adventure! We're excited to introduce NEXTGen A2 as the gateway to a more vibrant, connected, and inclusive future. As we uncover the possibilities that lie ahead, stay tuned for updates. Feel free to reach out to NEXTGen A2 Coordinator Ariella Hoffman-Peterson at nextgena2@jewishannarbor.org for questions, connections, or to be added to our mailing list.

What's coming soon?

This October, NEXTGen A2 is presenting two wonderfully fall-themed events. On October 8, we will be hosting Fall Fun Day, which will include multiple stops at some fall favorite local gems. On October 28, we will celebrate Halloween Jewishly, complete with costumes, Havdallah, and plenty of sugar. We would love to have you there! See our Facebook page for events or contact Ariella at nextgena2@jewishannarbor.org.

Embrace the NEXTGen experience — your pass to shaping an even brighter Jewish community, not just in the Ann Arbor area, but beyond! ■

ore informa-
register, go to
mudmichigan.

36th Annual Ann Arbor Jewish Book Festival Continued from page 1

events are available (and will continue to be updated) online at jccannarbor.org. In addition to our organizational partners, committee members, and volunteers, the Ann Arbor Jewish Book Festival relies on the generous support of individual community members and local families to bring substantive, engaging literary programs to Washtenaw County year after year. For information on becoming a sponsor of the 36th Annual Ann Arbor Jewish Book Festival, please visit jccannarbor.org/book-festival or contact Ariella Monson at (734) 971-0990 or ariellamonson@jccan

The Cost of Free Land: Jews, Lakota, and an American Inheritance

by Rebecca Clarren

Growing up, Rebecca Clarren only knew the major plot points of her tenacious immigrant family's origins. Her great-great-grandparents, the Sinykins, and their six children fled antisemitism in Russia and arrived in the United States at the turn of the twentieth century, ultimately settling on a 160-acre homestead in South Dakota. Over the next few decades, despite tough years on a merciless prairie and multiple setbacks, the Sinykins became an American immigrant success story.

What none of Clarren's ancestors ever mentioned was that their land, the foundation for much of their wealth, had been cruelly taken from the Lakota by the United States government. By the time the Sinykins moved to South Dakota, America had broken hundreds of treaties with hundreds of Indigenous nations across the continent, and the land that had once been reserved for the seven bands of the Lakota had been diminished, splintered, and handed for free, or practically free, to white settlers. In The Cost of Free Land, Clarren melds investigative reporting with personal family history to reveal the intertwined stories of her family and the Lakota, and the devastating cycle of loss of Indigenous land, culture, and resources that continues today.

With deep empathy and clarity of purpose, Clarren grapples with the personal and national consequences of this legacy of violence and dispossession. What does it mean to survive oppression only to perpetuate and benefit from the oppression of others? By shining a light on the people and families tangled up in this country's difficult history, The Cost of Free Land invites readers to consider their own culpability and what, now, can be done.

The Topsy-Turvy Bus by Anita Fitch Pazner

Reviewed by Michal Hoschander Malen

A group of children learn about the environment and the decaying condition of the Earth but don't know what to do in order to ameliorate the situation. Then the Topsy-Turvy Bus rolls into town with its message of tikkun olam — meaning that it is the obligation of everyone to help improve society for the betterment of all. The bus, partially right-side-up and partially upside-down, takes the children on an unusual tour through town. It stops at a restaurant not to buy food, but to collect used oil to recycle and use as fuel. The children then go to an organic food market to find fruits and vegetables, some of which they deliver to local families. An organic worm farm, where they learn about recycling earth, is their next destination. When the day is done, the children return to school with two important refrains etched into their minds: tikkun olam and "recycle, rethink, reuse, and renew." Bright illustrations reinforce these principles, depicting children, teachers, and community members with smiling faces and a will to improve the world in which they live.

Extensive backmatter includes pictures of the two actual Topsy-Turvy Buses, one based in Connecticut and the other in Michigan. Used for teaching purposes, the buses belong to Hazon, the largest faith-based environmental organization in the country. Interested readers can learn more about Hazon's work at hazon.org.

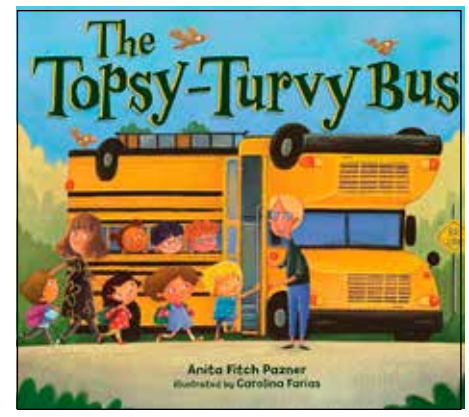
Under Jerusalem: The Buried History of the World's Most Contested City by Andrew Lawler

Reviewed by Michal Hoschander Malen

Jerusalem is a city of endless beauty and fascination for residents, visitors, and historians. It is also a political tinderbox with conflicting ethnic, religious, and societal claims to its many glories. Archaeology has been a focal point of Jerusalem study as layer after layer of its history is revealed, adding fact, nuance, detail, and drama to its story. Those who study Jerusalem and its unique history, which ranges from pre-Biblical times until the present day, are at the heart of a tempest of claims, counterclaims, and contentious political theater that seems never to wane.

Under Jerusalem by Andrew Lawler is an intriguing resource for those interested in learning what lies beneath the modern city and how those findings affect today's political and social landscape. Its stories lie in layers, many of which have been undisturbed for centuries. Lawler presents a cast of characters and a progression of events that build one on another, much like the archaeological layers themselves, and the discoveries he shows us beguile and amaze. Each archaeologist who arrived, tools in hand and team at the ready, hoped to tease out Jerusalem's underground secrets. Each was a product of his or her time. Some had an agenda. Each operated against a particular social and political landscape. Each unearthed discovery was evaluated in light of the ethos of its time, but each gains deeper context as time goes on.

As Lawler's account progresses, today's territorial conflicts play an increasingly disturbing role in the explorations of the past. Who has the right to excavate where? Will discoveries support one political side and discredit another? What roles do the three major religions in the area play, and how can archaeological finds square with



religious doctrines? Can the lessons of the far-off past provide a guide to coexistence in modern times?

Extensive front and back matter adds context. Included are numerous maps, a long list of suggested further reading, detailed notes, an introduction, an author's note, and an epilogue that sums up Lawler's findings. Those interested in Jerusalem both above and below ground will find Under Jerusalem both fascinating and useful.

Call for Local Authors

Do you have a new book out this year, or know others in the community who do? Present it at one of the JCC's best attended events of the year! The 36th Annual Ann Arbor Jewish Book Festival culminates with a celebration of local authors on Sunday, November 19. Books with a 2023 publication date that are either of Jewish interest — featuring a Jewish subject or containing substantial Jewish content — or written by a Jewish author are eligible for the event. Find more information about the Ann Arbor Jewish Book Festival local authors' program and register to participate at jccannarbor.org/book-festival ■

Trio Cantilena to perform in Ann Arbor

By Judith Endelman

Trio Cantilena-Jerusalem de España is bringing their impassioned performance of works rooted in Judeo-Español culture to Ann Arbor this fall. The trio of Guy Yehuda, clarinetist, Ronit Widmann-Levy, soprano, and Daniel Akiva, guitarist and composer, will give a concert on Saturday, November 4, at 7.30 p.m. at Beth Israel Congregation. The program will include "Smoke and Dust," a work written by Daniel Akiva, and dedicated to the memory of the Holocaust victims of Salonika, Greece. The trio will also perform portions of a new piece by Akiva, "Forty-two Reflections on Piyyutim," music that is based on the traditional music of the Sephardic diaspora.

The three musicians met when Guy Yehuda and Ronit Widmann-Levy were high school music students at the WIZO School of the Arts in Haifa (now incorporated into the Re'ut School of Arts). Daniel Akiva, who was then head of the music department, was their instructor. The three performers maintain active international performance schedules. Guy Yehuda is associate professor of clarinet and artist teacher in the College of Music at Michigan State University. In addition to her symphony and opera performances, Ronit Widmann-Levy, who lives in Los Angeles, is known for her interpretation of Ladino romansa and cantiga. Daniel Akiva, who lives in Haifa, has made a name as a composer of music based on Sephardic musical traditions, and also performs guitar internationally. Trio Cantilena is a relatively new project of the three musicians. The Ann Arbor concert will be only their second U.S. performance.

Trio Cantilena's Ann Arbor performance, which is sponsored by the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor, is part of the JCC's growing Arts & Culture program. "We're delighted to partner with the Michigan State University College of Music in bringing this program of Sephardic music to Ann Arbor," commented David Stone, Executive Director of the Ann Arbor JCC. "It's sure to be a memorable night!"

Daniel Akiva's recent work for guitar and clarinet, "Sephardic Anthology for Clarinet and Guitar," is available on Spotify, Apple Music, and Amazon Music,

Trio Cantilena
Saturday, November 4, 7.30 p.m.
Beth Israel Congregation, 2000 Washtenaw, Ann Arbor

Ticket Prices:

For JCC members: $18
For community members: $25
Purchase tickets by visiting jccannarbor.**org**
Complimentary tickets are available for Jewish Book Festival and Patron of the Arts sponsors. Please call the Jewish Community Center at 734-971-0990 to reserve your se*at.* ■

The Golem … just in time for Halloween

By Robert Erlewine, Director EMU Center for Jewish Studies

Just in time for Halloween, University of Michigan Professor of Hebrew Literature and Jewish Culture Maya Barzilai will deliver the Second Annual Martin B. Shichtman Lecture for the Eastern Michigan University Center for Jewish Studies, titled "Our Golems, Ourselves: What the Golem Narrative Teaches about the Modern Human Condition." In this talk, Barzilai will consider the ways the Golem, this artificially created anthropoid, challenges our conception of humanity, making us consider to what degree and in what ways we are different from the machines and weapons we have created in our image. Barzilai will trace the emergence of the Golem as a nineteenth century folkloric figure and consider how this story has been retold in the twentieth century through comparisons to computers, cyborgs, and superheroes.

For a short period of time around Halloween, we call attention to and celebrate the bizarre, the monstrous, and the uncanny. It is a time where we collectively think about monsters. And while thinking about monsters can be fun, it can also be serious business. As cultural critics have long argued, monsters are rich with meaning, and often reveal and reflect societal anxieties and ambivalences. Given that these are troubling times on a variety of fronts, from international conflicts to the remarkable polarization in domestic politics, not to mention the intensification of the climate crisis and recent breakthroughs in AI technology, our moment is nothing if not anxious. This October, then, is a good time to think about monsters.

The Golem is one of the more famous Jewish monsters, though its fame extends well beyond the Jewish world. As Professor Maya Barzilai has shown in her important and award-winning book Golem: Modern Wars and Their Monsters from 2016, writers and artists in the twentieth century have found the figure of the Golem quite conducive for articulating anxieties about modern mechanized warfare. This story gets at something profound about our experiences with and concerns about the machines and weapons we make and employ but which always threaten to escape our control. With much-publicized breakthroughs in artificial intelligence in recent months, it has become quite common to see pundits, billionaires, and intellectuals argue about whether this technology will foster human thriving or lead to our undoing. In such an environment, I think it is reasonable to conclude that the figure of the Golem will continue to have a safe place in our cultural imaginary for some time.

Professor Barzilai will deliver the Second Annual Martin B. Shichtman Lecture at 7 p.m. in room 300 of the EMU Student Center on Monday, October 30. The event is free and open to the public. ■

October events at Beth Israel

Everyone is welcome to join Beth Israel for services, classes, and events. Services are being held in person and virtually, unless otherwise noted on the calendar. Beth Israel is now live streaming services on the Beth Israel YouTube channel (Beth Israel Congregation AA MI). All links are available on the Beth Israel homepage (www.bethisrael-aa.org). Please note that passwords are used. Contact the office to get the passwords at office@bethisrael-aa.org.

Sukkot Services
Sunday, October 1, 9:30 a.m. Beth Israel celebrates Sukkot with morning services beginning at 9:30 a.m. Wave your lulav and etrog!

BIC Sukkah Hop
Sunday, October 1, 4 p.m., and Tuesday, October 3, 5:30 p.m. Visit the family sukkot of various BIC members and, on Sunday, the congregational sukkah at Beth Israel.

Pizza in the Hut
Wednesday, October 3, 6 p.m. After religious school, join Beth Israel for a traditional pizza dinner in the Sukkah — just as our ancestors did when they were wandering in the desert.

Simchat Torah Extravaganza
Saturday, October 7, 5:30 p.m. Join Beth Israel for our annual Simchat Torah family celebration with marching, dancing, singing, and prizes for the kids. Before we complete the reading of the Torah, we will unroll a complete Torah scroll to reveal all that is written there.

Simchat Torah Day Service
Sunday, October 8, 9:30 a.m. Come to Beth Israel for services on the final day of the holiday season. We will complete the cycle of Torah reading and start over again with Bereshit. In the middle of the service, we will break for a pancake breakfast.

Musician-in-Residence, Anthony Russell
Friday, October 13, 6 p.m., and Saturday, October 14, 9:30 a.m.
Anthony Russell will join BIC as the musician-in-residence. His scholarship includes Yiddish music and Ashkenazic melodies, niggunim, and the crossover with African American musical tradition. Mr. Russell with co-lead Friday night Kabbalat Shabbat Services. On Saturday morning he will give a d'var Torah, lead some prayers, and after services, present an adult education class. (See full article)

Aura of Kabbalat Shabbat
Friday, October 27, 6 p.m. A Jewish Renewal-inspired singing service led by Rabbi Aura Ahuvia. The choir, dubbed the "Holy Levites," will be holding a rehearsal at 5:30 p.m. leading right up to and seamlessly into services. All are welcome to attend.

Talmud Class with Rabbi Dobrusin
Mondays at 4 p.m. via Zoom. We read the text in Hebrew or Aramaic with an accompanying English translation and all discussions will be in English so no familiarity with Hebrew is required. This fall, we will be studying from the eighth chapter of the tractate Bava Kamma which deals with an individual's obligation to compensate for injuries caused to another person. The chapter begins with an extensive discussion of the rabbinic interpretation that "An eye for an eye" refers to monetary compensation.

Theology Book Club — Online
Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. Beth Israel Congregation's Theology Book Club welcomes you to join them to read together and discuss books on Jewish thought and beliefs. The books are in English. Contact Paul Shifrin at (248) 514-7276 for more information.

In Person and Online Services

Evening Minyan — virtual only
Sundays at 5 p.m.
Mondays–Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.
Friday Evening Services — in person and virtual
Kabbalat Shabbat Service at 6 p.m.
Shabbat Morning Services — in person and virtual
Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. ■

Anthony Russell joins Beth Israel as musician-in-residence

by Barbara McAnelly for Beth Israel Congregation

Anthony Russell will join Beth Israel as our fall musician-in-residence on October 13 and 14. He will co-lead Friday services and give d'var on Saturday, as well as an adult education class on Saturday afternoon at 1 p.m. entitled "Written in Breath: Yiddish Song as Commentary." Mr. Russell joins us in partnership with the Frankel Center, where he will be participating in the Frankel Center's conference on Jewish Education on Sunday, October 15.

Anthony Russell is a performer, composer, and arranger specializing in music in the Yiddish language. His work in traditional Ashkenazi Jewish musical forms led to a musical exploration of his own ethnic roots through the research, arrangement, and performance of African American folk music, resulting in the EP Convergence (2018), a collaboration with klezmer consort Veretski Pass exploring the sounds and themes of 100 years of African American and Ashkenazi Jewish music.

Inspired by an ethnographic trip to Belarus and Poland as a Wallis Annenberg Helix Fellow, Anthony formed a duo, Tsvey Brider ("Two Brothers"), with accordionist and pianist Dmitri Gaskin for the creation of new music set to modernist Yiddish poetry of the 20th century. Their new album, Kosmopolitn, was released in August on the Borscht Beat label.

A Hadar Rising Song Fellow (2021–22), Anthony is also an essayist on music and culture in a number of publications including Jewish Currents and Moment Magazine. Anthony lives in Atlanta, Georgia, with his husband of six years, Rabbi Michael Rothbaum. ■

"Shared local languages of religious imagination"

Marina Mayorski, PhD Candidate and GSI, Frankel Center for Judaic Studies

This year's Padnos Public Engagement on Jewish Learning Event takes place on October 17 at 7 p.m. and features Dr. Rebecca Scharbach Wollenberg, Assistant Professor of Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan. Wollenberg will present a lecture entitled "Abrahamic Vernaculars: Rivals Thinking Together" at the Hager Auditorium (Room 119) in the Cook-Devos Center for Health Sciences on Grand Valley State University's Campus. The event will also be available via Zoom. Following the lecture, at approximately 8:30 p.m., there will be a light reception outside the Hager Auditorium.

In this lecture, Dr. Wollenberg explains that while on paper the Abraham of the Quran is very different from the Abraham of the Hebrew Bible or Paul's Abraham in the New Testament, when it came to the vernacular spoken scripture of everyday life, Jewish, Christian, and Muslim neighbors often created little pockets of local religious common sense. They came to share basic preconceptions about these scriptural figures, concepts, or rituals, even when they engaged in strong debate. Over the years, these shared religious vernaculars were often folded back into the broader religious traditions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. The so-called Abrahamic traditions are subtly knit together by a thousand tiny threads of spoken scripture that popped up here and there over the centuries. In a time of increasing polarization and religiously based conflict, Dr. Wollenberg seeks to uncover the other side of the Abrahamic coin, and explore historical moments when Jews, Christians, and Muslims have done their religious thinking together.

Rebecca Scharbach Wollenberg arrived at U-M as a postdoctoral fellow at the Michigan Society of Fellows and has been teaching at the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies since 2018. Her courses introduce students to the Bible and Judaism through experiential learning and hands-on engagement. Her pedagogical initiative, in collaboration with Dr. Yasmin Moll, "The Abrahamic Sensorium: An Experiential Learning Series" was recognized this year with The Provost Teaching Innovation Prize. Dr. Wollenberg has recently published The Closed Book: How the Rabbis Taught the Jews (Not) to Read the Bible (Princeton University Press). Examining the development of Jewish attitudes toward the Bible, Wollenberg contests the perception of Judaism as the religion of the book par excellence. The Closed Book argues that Jews didn't truly embrace the biblical text until nearly a thousand years after the Bible was first canonized. She tells the story of the intervening centuries during which even rabbis seldom opened a Bible and many rabbinic authorities remained deeply ambivalent about the biblical text as a source of sacred knowledge.

In 2020, the Stuart and Barbara Padnos Foundation provided a generous gift to the Frankel Center for Judaic Studies to establish the Padnos Public Engagement on Jewish Learning fund. This initiative facilitates annual public educational activities in Jewish Studies throughout the State of Michigan, with a focus on the western part of the state. The Padnos Public Engagement on Jewish Learning Event is organized in partnership with the Kaufman Interfaith Institute at Grand Valley State University.

Please register here: http://www.gvsu.edu/interfaith/padnos. ■

Pardes Hannah October events

Pleascheck the Pardes Hannah website (https://pardeshannah.org/) for the latest information, including location of in-person events, registration links for Zoom, and other details on these or any of our services, rituals, circles, or teachings, or call Renee Robbins at 734-904-5459.

Shabbat Morning Services
Saturday, October 7, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Study Session
Saturday, October 21, 3–5 p.m.

Rosh Chodesh Circle
Sunday, October 15, 7–8:30 p.m. ■

A conference to honor the uncommon contributions of Harlene Appleman z"l

By Megan Bernard and Karla Goldman

On Sunday, October 15, the Jewish Communal Leadership Program at the University of Michigan (JCLP) will convene a conference focused on possibility in Jewish education. The conference is intended to honor the memory of Harlene Appelman z"l, former Executive Director of the Covenant Foundation and master Jewish educator in Ann Arbor and Metropolitan Detroit. It offers an opportunity to mark the anniversary of Harlene's death in August 2022. This convening is free and open to the public. All community members as well as Jewish educators and professionals are most welcome. A kosher dinner will be provided at Hillel but requires an immediate RSVP (which can be accessed at https://ssw.umich.edu/offices/jewish-communal-leadership-program).

The conference will echo Harlene's sense of the unexpected and uncommon gifts that so often arise in the enterprise of Jewish education. Presenters will examine the possibilities uncovered when we discard the many assumptions and habits that too often limit the potential of Jewish education. What can happen when we dive directly into Israel education, or believe in children's ability to embrace complexity, or encounter Jewish art and music that departs from what feels most familiar?

Master educators Dr. Sivan Zakai, Dr. Susie Tanchel, and Rabbi Rebecca Milder will explore the unexpected gifts embedded in children's capacity for learning and imagination. Musical artists Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell and Sarah Aroeste and visual artist Hillel Smith will consider the use of art and culture in challenging and enriching our cultural assumptions. Rabba Yaffa Epstein, Senior Scholar and Educator in Residence at the Jewish Education Project, will honor Harlene's work in elevating the entire field with a keynote presentation focused on "The Holy Work of Education: Excellence, Passion, and Empowering Others." The evening program will also include Ladino-inflected music from Sarah Aroeste as well as words of appreciation and remembrance from some of Harlene's students, colleagues, and friends.

As executive director of the Covenant Foundation, Harlene Appelman left her mark on the international field of Jewish education. As a master educator and community member in Ann Arbor and Metro Detroit, Harlene shared her vision and humanity with our local communities. She was particularly impactful as a mentor. Harlene never met a Michigan graduate student interested in Jewish community to whom she didn't offer guidance, feedback, and access to a vast network of potential employers, colleagues, and friends. It feels appropriate to honor her creative spirit, inquiring mind, and deep humanity at a school and within a community that meant so much to her.

Conference Schedule:

Unexpected Gifts: Reimagining Jewish Education

Sunday, October 15

1 p.m.: Welcome

1:15–3:15 p.m.: "Unexpected Gifts of Children's Thinking," panel discussion and interactive session
Sharon Feiman-Nemser (Brandeis University), Sivan Zakai (Hebrew Union College), Susie Tanchel (Hebrew College), Rebecca Milder (Jewish Enrichment Center)

3:30–5:30 p.m.: "Disrupted Expectations: Challenging Communal Preconceptions through Art and Culture," panel discussion and interactive session
Dr. Laura Yares (Michigan State University), Anthony Mordechai Tzvi Russell, Hillel Smith, and Sarah Aroeste

6–9 p.m.: Evening Program and Dinner at Michigan Hillel
Musical moment, Sarah Aroeste
Tributes to Harlene Appelman
Keynote presentation and interactive discussion, Rabba Yaffa Epstein (Jewish Education Project): "The Holy Work of Education: Excellence, Passion, and Empowering Others" ■

Dan Nichols returns to TBE for Simchat Torah

By Cantor Regina Lambert-Hayut

Simchat Torah is a time for celebrating the end and beginning again of the Torah reading cycle. We read a few verses from the conclusion of Deuteronomy and then roll all the way back to B'reishit. A fun tradition among Reform Jewish congregations is to unroll the Torah

so we can see almost the entire year laid out before us and acknowledge some of the bigger moments.

This year, rather than take a visual tour of the Torah, Temple Beth Emeth will sing our way through our journey from creation to standing on the precipice of the Land and back to creation with guest musical artist Dan Nichols.

Dan Nichols is a renowned singer/songwriter whose mission is to engage our youth through music, creating connections, offering powerful value-driven lessons, and teaching the joys of sharing the gift of music with others through song leading workshops. In 1995, after graduating with a degree in vocal performance from University of North Carolina, he established the Jewish rock band Eighteen, who have released 13 albums and are known for many favorite songs of campers from URJ summer camps and congregations around our country.

Amongst his many accomplishments, Dan created the Road to Eden Deep South Sukkot Tour to bring the message of Sukkot to communities in the southern United States, where his band played 11 shows in 10 days, and whose experience was captured in the documentary film Road to Eden.

Dan will be at TBE to spend time with members of our community as well as perform on our bimah. In addition to the Simchat Torah event, some of the exciting opportunities to interact with Dan include his joining with Kol HaLev to teach some selections for the Friday evening service, joining the TBE clergy for Sukkot Morning Service and Yizkor, singing and teaching at the Friday afternoon Lunch and Learn, co-leading Friday Evening and Saturday Morning Shabbat Services with the TBE clergy, and singing with the religious school students. Registration is requested for the Simchat Torah event by Thursday, October 5, and can be done at www.templebethemeth.org. ■

TBE events in October

Events and services at Temple Beth Emeth are both in-person and/or virtual. Please see www.templebethemeth.org for full details, locations information, and links.

Tot Shabbat Service and Dinner
Fridays at 5:45 p.m.
Join Cantor Hayut and Rabbi Whinston to celebrate Shabbat with fun activities, stories, songs, and age-appropriate learning for children ages 0–5.

Shabbat Service
Fridays at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday Shabbat service
Saturdays at 10 a.m.

Weekday morning blessings
Weekdays at 9:15 a.m.
Join Rabbi Whinston each weekday morning for a short service of song, poetry, and meditation.

Afternoon blessings
Thursdays at 3 p.m.
Join Cantor Hayut for an intimate short service.

Adult B'nai Mitzvah
Mondays at 5:45 p.m.
Contact Cantor Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org for details and with questions.

Women's Torah study
Mondays at 7:30 p.m.
Join Cantor Hayut in an in-depth study and lively discussion of the week's Torah portion. This year, the group will focus on exploring passages that have informed rituals of modern Jewish life.

Twenty-five-minute mindfulness with Jewish spiritual director Linda Greene
Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.
Zoom room opens at 8:15 a.m. for optional check-in. Blessing and intention setting 8:30–8:35 a.m. Meditate 8:35–9 a.m. Start your day centered and connected.

Queer Torah Study
Tuesdays at 7 p.m.
Join us in-person or via Zoom for a discussion of queer themes in the weekly Torah portion! Led by Ari Marcotte & Ari Smith. Guest leaders welcome! Contact Ari M (ari.j.marcotte@gmail.com) for more information.

Cantor's (Jewish) Book Club with Cantor Hayut
Thursdays at 11 a.m.
Join Cantor Hayut to read and discuss books of Jewish interest a few chapters at a time. This year, the book group will be reading primarily, although not exclusively, works by Israeli authors. For more information or questions, please contact Cantor Hayut.

Back Door Food Pantry
Thursdays, 4 to 7 p.m.

Meditation with Claire Weiner
Thursdays at 5 p.m.
Join Claire Weiner for a 40-minute meditation session

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Whinston
Fridays at 12 p.m.
Bring your lunch and learn with Rabbi Whinston during this informal and social gathering. We explore different ideas throughout the year with participants guiding our subjects. Join us under the tent at TBE.

Shabbat morning Torah study
Saturdays at 8:50 a.m.
Join us for this weekly discussion of the Torah portion.

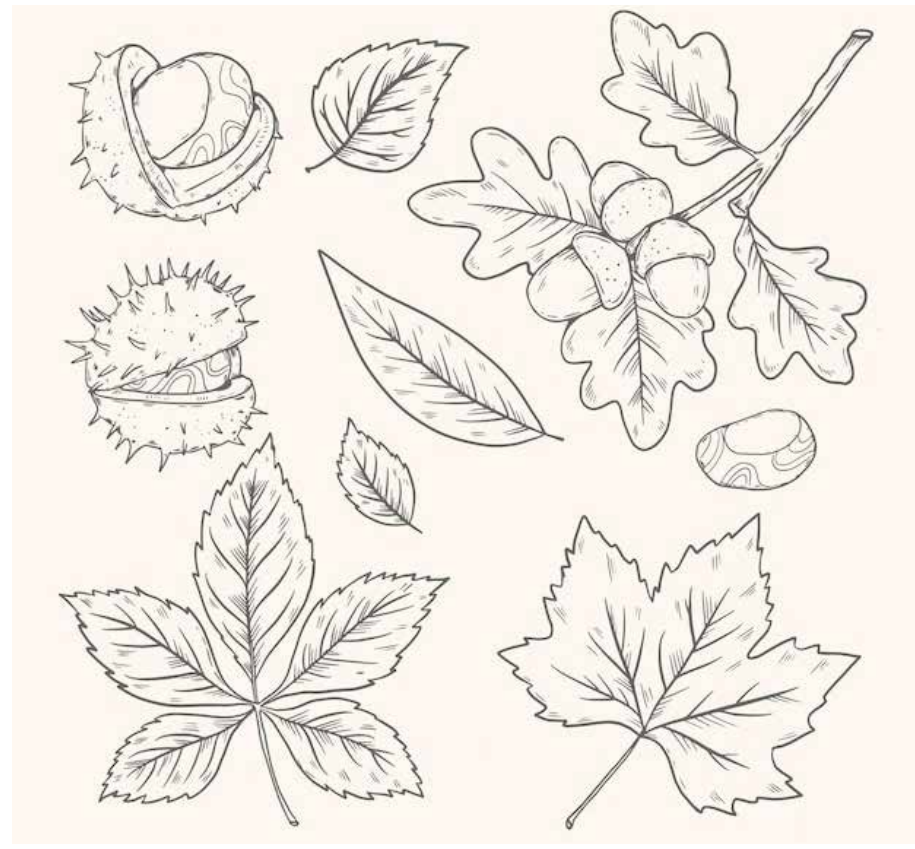
LGBTQ Night in the Sukkah
Sunday, October 1, 6:30 p.m.
We're going to be telling some stories, inviting in LGBTQ Jewish heroes, singing songs, and schmoozing in the Sukkah. Join us: share a story (two minutes or less!), hear others, and celebrate Sukkot! Registration requested by September 30 (for food planning).

Simchat Torah Event with Dan Nichols
Friday, October 7, 7 p.m.
This year, rather than take a visual tour of the Torah, we are going to sing our way through our journey from creation to standing on the precipice of the Land and back to creation with Guest Musical Artist Dan Nichols. Dan Nichols is a renowned singer/songwriter whose mission is to engage our youth through music, creating connections, offering powerful value-driven lessons and teaching the joys of sharing the gift of music with others through song leading workshops. In 1995, after graduating with a degree in vocal performance from University of North Carolina, he established the Jewish rock band Eighteen, who have released 13 albums and are known for many favorite songs of campers from URJ summer camps and congregations around our country. Registration requested by Thursday, October 5.

Elementary Shabbat Service, Dinner, and Family Camp
Friday, October 13, 5:45 p.m.
Celebrate Shabbat with fun activities, stories, songs, and age-appropriate learning for children ages 5–10. Registration requested. Family Camp provides an opportunity for families to play and learn together, for students to reinforce and share some of what they are learning in the classroom, and most importantly, to strengthen ties among students and parents/caretakers.

Bereavement Group
Tuesday, October 17, 4 p.m.
The group will have opportunities to share openly about their process of grieving and will also have topic-based readings to spark discussion.
Spirituality Book Club with Cantor Emerita Annie Rose
Tuesday, October 17, 7 p.m.
Thursday, October 19, 12 p.m.
Please come to our Tuesday night sessions OR our Thursday afternoon sessions. Registration is not required, but is helpful for our planning. Email Cantor Annie with more questions.

Aging Solo
Thursday, October 19, 4 p.m.
Join us for discussion, support, and snacks at the Jewish Community Center.
LGBTQ Shabbat Potluck
Friday, October 20, 6 p.m.
Join us for a Shabbat dinner and candle lighting with members of the local queer community! Bring a dish to share with others, make new friends, and let us know what you'd like to see in future queer programming! In order to make sure we can feed everyone, please respond to this survey (https://bit.ly/tbelgbtq) or email Ariane Smith at brariane@umich.edu with the dish you're planning to bring. ■



Celebrating 30 Years

Mosaic 2023

Sunday,
November 12th, 2023
2:00 - 5:00pm

WCC Morris Lawrence
4800 E Huron River Drive
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Join Us For Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County's

30TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

Honoring

Congresswoman Debbie Dingell | Homewatch CareGivers | Retirement Income Solutions

For three decades, JFS has been a pillar of support, compassion, and assistance in the community and beyond. As we mark this significant milestone, we invite you to be a part of our celebratory event, where we will not only commemorate the past but also look forward to the bright future ahead!

Enjoy an afternoon of celebration, great food, good company, and an even better cause.

EVENT CHAIRS: **Linh & Dug Song, Phyllis & David Herzig, Debbie & Norman Herbert**

JFS
Jewish Family Services
of Washtenaw County

Scan for more information, or visit:
https://jfsannarbor.org/2023-mosaic/

KIG Korotkin Insurance Group SINCE 1913 | NATIONAL CAR WRAPS | bank of ann arbor | Homewatch CareGivers | SONG FOUNDATION | Retirement Income Solutions 30 Years | Proudly Supported by Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor | LEWIS JEWELERS "YOUR DIAMOND STORE"

AARC events in October

For more information about services or events or to receive Zoom links, please email: aarcgillian@gmail.com. Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation website: aarecon.org

Second Saturday Morning Shabbat Service. October 14, 10:30 a.m.–12 p.m. at the JCC. This is a hybrid Shabbat Service led by our Rabbi, Gabrielle Pescador. Zoom link will be sent out the week before the event.

AARC Book Club, October 22, Zoom only, 12:30–2 p.m. We will discuss a novel dealing with Haifa and Israel from a Palestinian point of view: Isabella Hammad's Enter Ghost. Please email Greg Saltzman for the Zoom link: gsaltzman@albion.edu

Fourth Friday Kabbalat Shabbat. October 27, 6:30 p.m. in person at the JCC and on Zoom. This is a hybrid service led by Rabbi Gabrielle Pescador. Everyone is welcome! ■

Technology supports inclusive experience at AARC

By Emily Eisbruch, special to the Washtenaw Jewish News

Inclusivity at the Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation (AARC) has taken on new dimensions in recent years. At an AARC workshop to prepare for the high holidays, some participants were at the Jewish Community Center of Ann Arbor, while others joined from their homes in Ann Arbor or from as far away as France. "We are all about inclusivity and creating a broad tent. We embrace the technology that allows people to participate in ways that work for them," says AARC's Rabbi Gabrielle Pescador.

"Facilitating hybrid participation is a key part of our congregation's identity and commitment at this point." explains AARC board chair Debbie Gombert. "We have congregants living with health issues that prevent them from easily getting out of the house, and congregants who live in Northern Michigan, on either coast of the U.S., and overseas. It is wonderful to see them join our programs through Zoom."

The Dieve family, featured in the July 2023 Washtenaw Jewish article titled "Finding Jewish Community Ann Arbor to Switzerland," expressed their gratitude for the AARC's streaming of services, as they have been known to Zoom in from their adventures abroad.

The AARC tech team is currently spearheaded by Events and Communications Coordinator Gillian Jackson. "The AARC launched our Zoom programming at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic," Gillian comments. "It has turned out to be an important element of our program delivery that provides convenience and flexibility to our members. We extend a big thanks to AARC member and former board member Seth Kopald, who researched and guided us in obtaining the equipment that now serves us so well." For the high holidays, the AARC contracts with a video professional to create an even better broadcast experience that includes a "Torah Cam" and is streamed live on the AARC's YouTube channel.

When the AARC celebrates a bar or bat mitzvah, it can happen that some cherished relatives and friends are unable to travel to Ann Arbor. The opportunity to join significant life cycle events on Zoom is another major benefit of hybrid delivery.

Greg Saltzman, who coordinates the AARC book group, comments, "Our AARC book group was an in-person only experience for years. During the pandemic, we discussed many books over Zoom, and it worked well. But we missed the face-to-face fun and friendship, including the chance to share delicious food. Now, we generally have hybrid book group meetings. When we hold a book discussion in a member's backyard, we also smoothly accommodate participants who traveled to California, Maine, New Jersey, or Wyoming. Sadly, however, the version of Zoom we use does not allow downloads of fresh berries for remote participants."

To learn more about the AARC, please visit https://aarecon.org/ ■

JCOR to help with new refugee family arriving in October

By Deborah Meyers Greene

Washtenaw's Jewish Congregations Organized for Resettlement (JCOR) is welcoming its second refugee family in early October. As excitement rises with anticipation, fundraising efforts are running full tilt to ensure that JCOR has sufficient financial resources to meet its responsibilities to the incoming family. New volunteers are finishing their training modules, and the search is closing in on housing, furnishings, and general household goods.

Fourteen JCOR volunteers banded together to support Jew Family Services' September 10 Walk a Mile in My Shoes fundraising event, including (l-r) Fruma Taub, Renee Robbins, Rita Benn, Cathy Marshall, Jack Marshall, Michael Appel, and Jeff Basch.

JCOR's current co-coordinators Ketl (Carol) Freedman-Doan and Rita Benn, are leading this multifaceted, high-energy effort.

"Just as each family is distinct unto itself, we expect that each experience we will have cosponsoring a family will be unique," said Benn. "With the support of our community, I have no doubt that JCOR's volunteer action teams will help our incoming refugee family attain a firm footing in their new community."

"We encourage everyone to visit jcorannarbor.org, our newly revamped website, to learn more about JCOR, sign up to volunteer, maybe send a donation on our secure donation webpage," said Freedman-Doan.

First JCOR refugee family sums it all up

JCOR's first refugee family arrived on August 17, 2022, and precisely one year later almost to the hour, they participated in the customary "case close-out" meeting.

"It was a celebratory meeting," said JFS case worker Amanda Fahim who supervises JCOR's work with the families.

There was much to celebrate.

Both the mother and father are working 40–45 hours weekly, the teenage daughter had a successful experience with her summer job, and both she and her middle-school brother have returned to their classrooms for a second year in the Ann Arbor Public Schools. The family car is proving to be reliable; the family is current on all financial obligations and managing to tuck a little away in savings. As the high school daughter rapidly reaches fluency in English and hopes to acquire a third language too, her parents and little brother remain pretty much Spanish-dependent, although they're still working on English as a Second Language.

"The father expressed pride in all the work they have done, in what they've accomplished, and how far they've come. And they're optimistic about their future because of that," said Fahim.

"We asked them a number of questions about their experience with JCOR," said Harvey Somers, founding JCOR coordinator, now retired. "They responded, 'Perfect!' and 'The best program!' It was gratifying to hear that and reassuring to know that we got it right our first time out."

"They are so appreciative of the experience they want to volunteer, themselves, to pay it forward by helping future families," said Fahim, who coordinates the JFS co-sponsorship program which has had as many as six active collaborative church or synagogue groups working with refugee families. "This is a really successful outcome. The family is rightly proud of their accomplishments and feeling empowered. And they're not intimidated by the unknowns of the future. That's a sign that we did what we needed to do."

By mid-September, the family was moving on to its next major quest: home ownership. Their application to Habitat for Humanity has been approved, they've filed all required records, and now they wait excitedly to get the call that it's their turn.

"I congratulated them on all of their accomplishments during this year of integration into our community and thanked them for teaching us about what our parents and grandparents had gone through as they resettled in America," said Somers. ■

JFS history, part 2: Programs grow in response to community needs

By Mira Sussman, Resource Development Manager, Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County

From its humble origins in a tiny room at the Jewish Community Center with one half-time director, in the past 30 years Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County has grown into an organization that overflows a three-story building with 117 employees, 43 contractors, and hundreds of volunteers, and it is still growing. How has this incredible growth happened? The answer lies in the agency's ability to adapt and to view each potential crisis not only as a call to action, but also as an opportunity for growth.

Partnerships

JFS has achieved much of its growth via collaborations and strategic partnerships. Several early contractual partnerships and grants helped the agency get on solid ground in its early years and have long served as key elements to JFS' menu of services. The first was a contract with the Washtenaw County Office of Community and Economic Development; this contract was to provide services to individuals who receive public cash assistance, but whose English language skills were a barrier to employment. This contract allowed JFS to provide ongoing services to its clients and led to additional funding from the State of Michigan's Department of Education to provide English as a Second Language classes. Funding to purchase vehicles to transport JFS clients soon followed from the Michigan Department of Transportation, and further expanded the services that JFS could provide to its growing clientele.

Another key moment was in 2005 in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, which devastated New Orleans and the surrounding areas. When word went out to the social services agencies in Washtenaw County that approximately 200 people would be flown to Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County's Office of Community and Economic Development held a meeting to sort out what entities could participate in this resettlement effort. It quickly became clear that JFS' experience working with refugees and other new arrivals was crucial to this endeavor of domestic resettlement, and JFS ended up working directly with over 150 of the new arrivals. It was during this crisis and its aftermath that JFS got on the radar of the public outside of the Jewish community, further increasing the agency's profile, as well as leading to more engagement with local community agencies and coalitions.

In 2008 the worldwide financial recession hit, and Washtenaw County was not immune to its effects. At the same time as the number of local people needing employment, housing, and food resources skyrocketed, many Iraqis who had initially been resettled in Detroit and Dearborn began arriving in Ann Arbor as their final destination. In 2009 JFS renewed its active partnership with HIAS, which allowed the agency to hire additional staff and provide even more services, including expanded ESL classes, health screenings in partnership with St Joseph Health System and local clinics, more outreach to potential employers, and an expansion of immigration services.

Community and volunteer support

One of JFS' notable supporters was Herb Amster, a local businessman and investor and champion of many businesspeople. When he passed away in 2010, his wife Carol knew that an appropriate way to honor and remember Herb's legacy was to continue his work in social entrepreneurship — as he said, "do good things, but remember the bottom line so you can do more good things." Herb's family, his many friends and admirers, and others came together to create the Herb Amster Center in 2011, to provide an array of for-profit services, with the income from these activities reinvested into JFS' less profitable programs and services. The Herb Amster Center serves as the business development arm for JFS, providing corporate trainings, health and wellness services, workshops to local businesses and individuals, and helps to monetize the agency's expertise and turn it into earned revenue.

While JFS had already moved into its current home on State Street in 2007, it originally had only occupied a portion of the ground floor. As the number of staff and programs grew over the years, JFS slowly took up more and more space in the building. A group of dedicated board members and investors came together to help JFS purchase the entire three-story building from McKinley Properties in 2019. This was a tremendous community effort which demonstrated JFS' prominence in the fabric of the community's support network.

The most recent crisis was the arrival of Afghan parolees in 2022–2023. Afghans arrived in Washtenaw County so fast it felt as though the agency was "building the airplane while flying it." JFS received funding from the Federal government and HIAS to increase its capacity and develop a myriad of new supports, including mental health and family strengthening programs, youth and teen groups, a partnership with Matthei Garden for a refugee garden, and massive growth in the Micro Enterprise Department that supports small businesses.

Volunteer services quadrupled in COVID

When much of the world shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, requests for JFS' services ballooned. Without steady income, many people had to choose between medications and food, and requests for donated food from JFS quadrupled. JFS turned to the community for assistance and the number of volunteers also quadrupled, to help package and deliver food in a safe manner. JFS also became an official Meals on Wheels distribution agency during COVID. Volunteers also helped with phone check-in calls and online ESL tutoring and classes.

The community's continuous outpouring of support for new Americans is enormous and gratifying. Volunteers collect donations, set up apartments for new arrivals, provide gift cards, teach newcomers how to use public transportation, staff the expanded food pantry, and volunteer to drive groceries to hotels, apartments, and homebound individuals. When the federal government changed its resettlement guidelines, congregations stepped up to provide cosponsorship for new arrivals of refugees from all over the world, and groups of neighbors collaborated to support newcomers through the Neighbor2Neighbor program. The pace of new arrivals in Michigan is not expected to slow down in the coming years, making the support and participation of volunteers a necessity for this ongoing work.

No one knows how to predict the next crisis, but it is certain that Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County will be here to continue supporting our community. As the demand for food, transportation, and other basic supports continue to increase, the need for community relationships is more important than ever. ■

Apply now for a grant from the

Jewish Community Engagement Fund

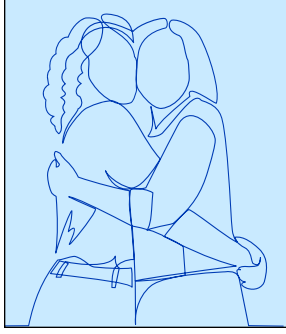
APPLICATIONS DUE OCT. 31!

Jewish Community Engagement Fund grants fund collaborative and innovative initiatives that bring people together, enhancing Jewish life in Washtenaw County.

The next deadline for grant submissions is October 31st, 2023.
Grant requests of up to $5,000 will be considered and must be submitted by a partnership of three or more collaborators.

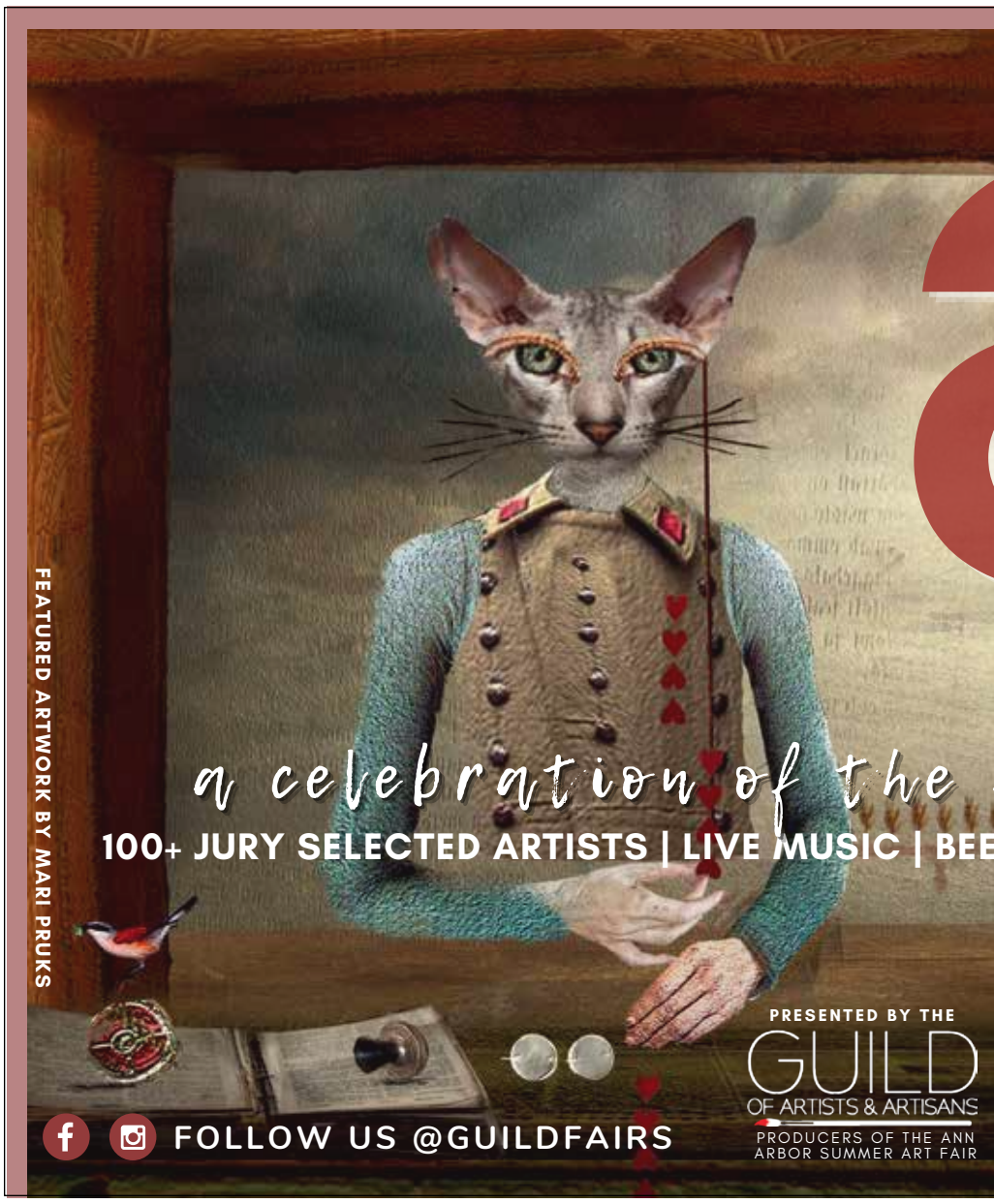
For more details and to apply, contact McKenzie Katz at McKenzie@jewishannarbor.org or visit

www.JewishAnnArbor.org/our-community/community-engagement-fund



Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor

SCAN TO APPLY!



FEATURED ARTWORK BY MARI PRUKS

FOLLOW US @GUILDFAIRS

PRESENTED BY THE GUILD OF ARTISTS & ARTISANS
PRODUCERS OF THE ANN ARBOR SUMMER ART FAIR

a2 ARTOBERFEST
FINE ART FAIR

OCTOBER 28&29, 2023
SATURDAY 10AM-8PM + SUNDAY 10AM-4PM

a celebration of the arts in ann arbor

100+ JURY SELECTED ARTISTS | LIVE MUSIC | BEER, CIDER + COCKTAILS | FOOD VENDORS

LOCATED ON NORTH FOURTH AVE. + ANN STREET
IN DOWNTOWN ANN ARBOR/KERRYTOWN

A2ARTOBERFEST.ORG

The Eastern Michigan University Center for Jewish Studies Presents

Our Golems, Ourselves

What the Golem Narrative Teaches About the Modern Human Condition

Monday, October 30 — 7 p.m.

EMU Student Center, Room 300, 900 Oakwood St., Ypsilanti, MI

How different are we from the machines and weapons we have created in our image? Modern golem narratives have taken up this question by comparing golems to computers, cyborgs, and superheroes.

Please join **Professor Maya Barzilai** for a discussion about golems.

General Education Approved LBC GROUP 3

This event is free and open to the public.

For questions, please contact **jewish.studies@emich.edu**

CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

LET AN ANN ARBOR NATIVE HELP YOU BUY OR SELL YOUR HOME

- **$22 Million** in sales in **2022**
- **Graduate of, Burns Park Elem, Tappan MS, Pioneer/Community HS, and Beth Israel Religious School**
- **Proud Alumnus of University of Michigan School of Music, Theater, and Dance**

Ariel Hurwitz-Greene
Cell: 734-646-5333
ahurwitzgreene@cbwm.com
hurwitzgreenegroup.cbwm.com

HurwitzGreene
REAL ESTATE GROUP

COLDWELL BANKER REALTY

2723 S. State St., Ste. 300, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

STAY WARM THIS WINTER

BIVOUAC SINCE 1971

336. S State St. Ann Arbor, Mi. 48104 734.761.6207
www.bivouacannarbor.com Mon-Sat: 10-8 Sun: 11:30-5

Free Same Day Delivery* & Free Shipping on orders over $49 *within 5 miles

We can't help you unclog your gutters.

But we can help you save for a rainy day.

bank of ann arbor

Member FDIC

GIVE NOW

to the 2024 Annual Community Campaign

No single gift does more

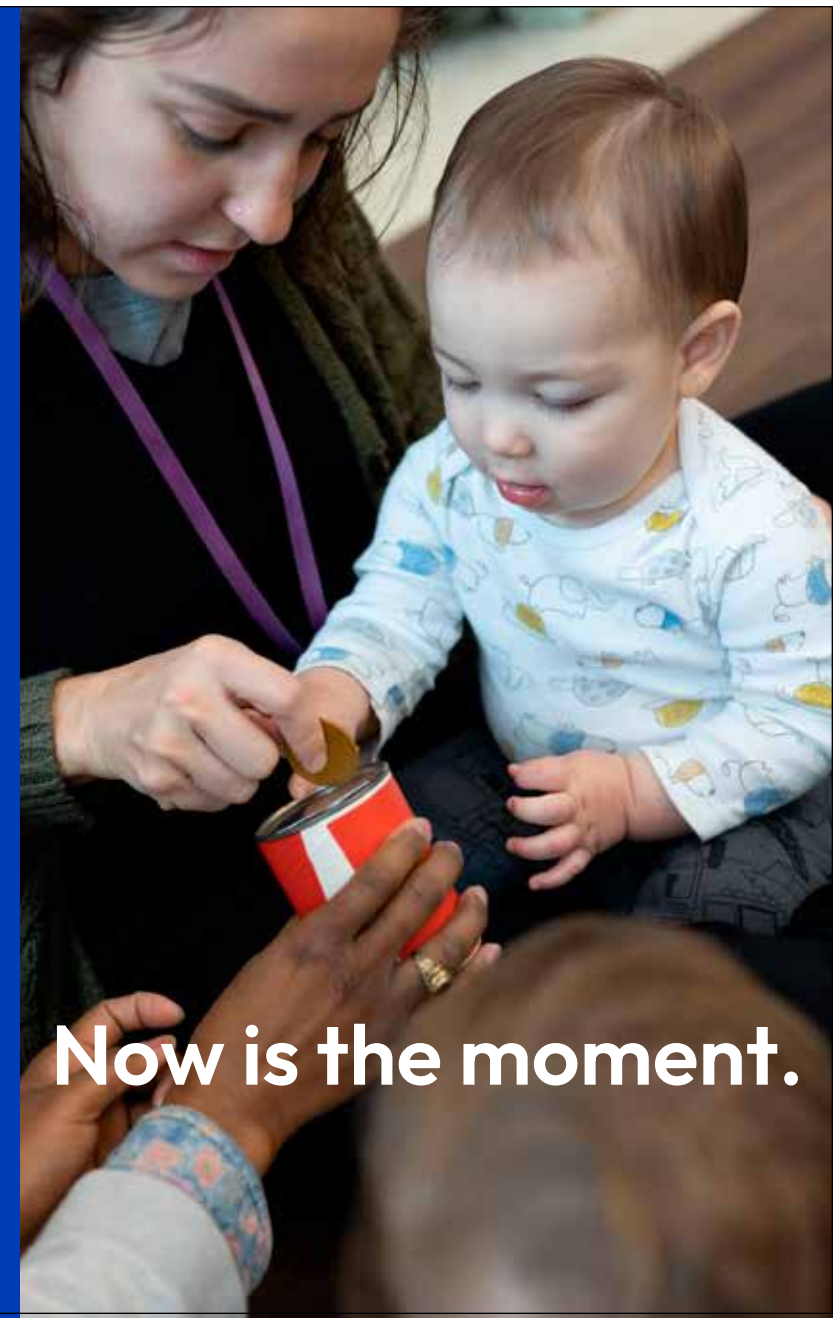
to meet the most vital needs of the Jewish community in greater Ann Arbor, in Israel, and around the world.

What Jewish moments will your gift create?

Visit JewishAnnArbor.org

to create our community's next moments together.

Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor



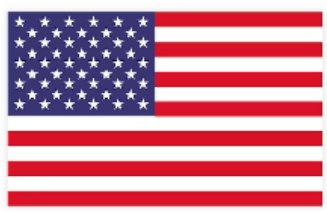
Zemyck
Stoneware Pottery

Pat Cowan

Free Shipping

https://www.etsy.com/shop/zemyck

Did You Serve in the United States Military?



Then I Want You!

Scan Here to Learn More About JWV-Michigan

Come to a Special Meeting to Introduce You and Your Family to the Jewish War Veterans-Michigan

Thursday, 12 October 2023 at 7:00 PM
Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor
2935 Birch Hollow Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108

Scan Here for Membership Application

Simply can't wait and need to hear more right now?
Contact Don Schenk at 248-515-3167 or via email at Membership@jwv-mi.org

Legacy in Action

Special to the WJN

A new five-part radio miniseries on civic engagement, "Legacy in Action," is running each Friday, September 15 through October 13, at 10:10 a.m. on 91.3 FM WBNY (West Buffalo New York) in preparation of Elbert Williams Voter Engagement Day on October 15. Talia Speaks: Latina HerStory invited guest cohost Leslie McGraw (Ann Arbor) to partner for this special miniseries. Topics include National Voter Registration Day (September 19), Voter Education Week (October 2–6), and storytelling as a tool for leadership and increasing civic engagement.

Through storytelling, this radio miniseries endeavors to breathe life into the name of Elbert Williams and honor his suffrage efforts. This initiative aims to highlight not only Elbert Williams, but the storytellers. Rodriguez and McGraw weave together a story of leaders who have become activists not despite ethnic and racially-based violence and exclusion, but rather because of it.

The series begins with African historian Emmanuel Kulu speaking to the African concept of bringing valuable lessons from the past forward: Sankofa. Other featured community leaders include Jonise Hall, Assistant Director at the Anne Frank Project at SUNY Buffalo State University; Antoine Johnson, Fatherhood Practitioner; Elbert Williams Voting Corner representatives; and Dr. Starita Ansari, relative of tortured NAACP member Elisha Davis of Tennessee and cousin to Leslie McGraw.

Rodriguez understands firsthand what it means to be a keeper of the family narrative. During a program planning session, she stated, "Storytelling is the most powerful way to put ideas into the world; stories are memory aids, instruction manuals, and moral compasses."

Rodriguez uses her family's story and her humble upbringing to be a leader at the West Side Promise Neighborhood, a partnership between the Buffalo community and Buffalo State University. Her own abuela (grandmother) came to New York from Puerto Rico with limited English and literacy skills. Nevertheless, she rose as a respected leader within her family and close-knit community and attended King's 1963 March on Washington. Rodriguez, who was once told she might not make it to college, has shattered socioeconomic barriers by becoming part of the 1.6% of Latino Americans with a law degree.

Leslie McGraw, the founder of the Elbert Williams Voting Corner and the Elbert Williams Voter Engagement Day, tells the story of her great-uncle Elbert Williams to breathe legacy into action. Mr. Williams was a leader and founding member of the Brownsville, Tennessee chapter NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) in 1939. Within the first year, after five Black residents attempted to vote, a terror campaign was launched by local elected officials and white leaders in the community. The group was threatened to stop meeting. After Mr. Williams was reportedly at the "corner store" planning a meeting, violence ensued. This violence included the kidnapping, torture, and "banishment" from Brownsville of NAACP member Elisha Davis. Elbert Williams was kidnapped by the sheriff and led into a mob. After his lynching, there was an investigation that garnered no consequences. It would be 74 years before the un-redacted files were released from the FBI. And, until 2015, his name was seldom whispered in family and community reflections, an occasional academic summary, and NAACP remembrances.

To listen live, visit 91.3 FM at https://www.radio.net/s/wbny on Fridays at 10 a.m. To listen to a previously recorded radio podcast in the series, visit Latina HerStory on YouTube or Swell or @TruStorySuccess on YouTube. ■

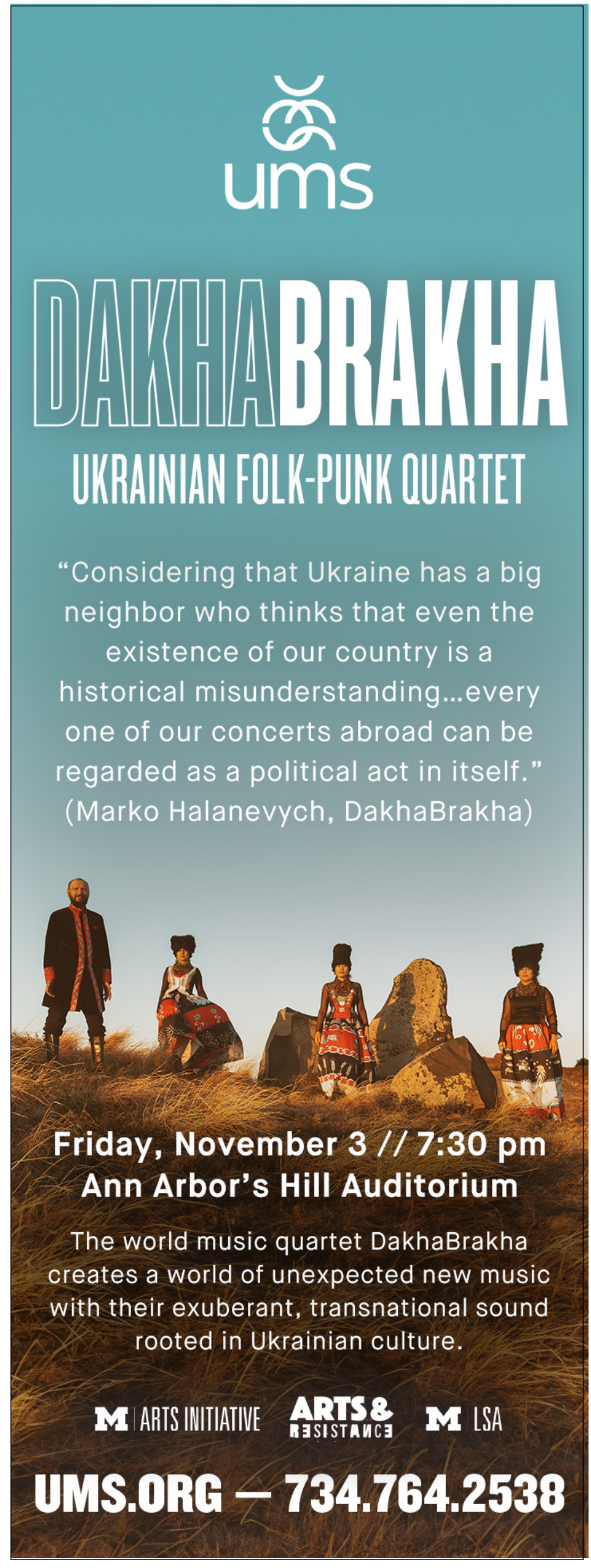
AARC
Ann Arbor Reconstructionist Congregation

Beit Sefer

Religious School
begins September 17th

school@aarecon.org
www.aarecon.org

Beit Sefer engages K-7th graders with creative, interactive learning. At AARC we celebrate the diversity of views, experiences & backgrounds of each student and their family.



Celebrating Native American Heritage Month at the JCC's Amster Gallery

By Drew Coel, Marketing and Program Associate at the Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor

It's been almost a full year since the beautiful work of local artists has returned to the JCC, and the reception for two very special exhibits will take place at the Amster Gallery on Thursday, November 2, from 6–8 p.m. Schmooze and have a nosh while exploring the work of two talented artists.

In honor of Native American Heritage Month, celebrated in November, the JCC will feature local artist Shel Markel's Native American Leaders, a charcoal drawing collection, on the walls of the Newman Lounge. Since 1998, Shel's work has been featured around Ann Arbor, the state of Michigan, the Midwest, and beyond, in both solo exhibitions and juried group shows.

Shel's art career began 10 years before his retirement from a 40-year career as a medical doctor. Though he began his art career with still life work, his interests later turned to horses, portraiture, and figurative works.

"My interest in Native American leaders began when I saw the cover of I Am a Man: The True Story of Ponca Chief Standing Bear, who won his first famous trial by asserting that he was indeed a man and not something other than that," Shel states. "This led to my seeing a collection of Edward S. Curtis's famous photographs, and I was taken by the facial expressions of Native American leaders that showed much about what they had faced. I then gathered photographs of many of them and used them as references for the portraits that make up the exhibition. I coupled those with the historical events that the leaders were directly involved in and things they said about themselves and their tribal brothers and sisters."

Also featured in the November 2 reception is the photography of Paulo Neuhaus, whose work will be up in the J's Amster Gallery. Paulo's portfolio reflects his strong interest in composition and color, though he occasionally shoots in the classic black and white mode.

Born and raised in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, Paulo was raised by Jewish parents who fled Germany soon after the onset of the Nazi regime. He earned a doctorate in economics at the University of Chicago in the 1970s, and after a brief professional stint back in Brazil, Paulo returned to the United States in 1979 as an economist in Washington, D.C.

"After years of shooting with a conventional single-lens reflex camera, I became interested in iPhone photography, drawn by its versatility and portability," Paulo says. "I am also inspired by my extensive domestic and international travels, and visual stimulation from my living surroundings in Michigan and Virginia, where my wife and I spend part of the year."

Paulo belongs to Middle Street Gallery, an art cooperative in Rappahannock County, Virginia, where he displays his work and participates periodically in solo and group shows.

Shel's works and most of Paulo's works displayed in the gallery will be for sale here at the JCC. The pieces of both artists will be up at the J starting in late October, so come by to check out the exhibits. ■

Heating and Cooling Specialists
A/C • Furnaces • Humidifiers • Air Cleaners
Carrier
Turn to the Experts
MODERN MECHANICAL
Alan Friedman
Serving our community since 1985
734-662-6644
www.modernmechanical.net

The 2024 international JCC Maccabi Games will be in Detroit

By Ariella Monson, Director of Development and Operations at the JCC of Greater Ann Arbor

Just 35 minutes away from Ann Arbor, the Detroit Jewish community will be hosting the 42nd JCC Maccabi Games, July 28–August 2, 2024. JCC Maccabi is the premier engagement program for Jewish teens aged 12–16 — it's not just an Olympic-style sports competition. In addition to connecting teens from around the globe for five days of athletic competition, the JCC Maccabi Games also gives teens the opportunity to experience JCC Cares community service projects, live with host families, enjoy "HangTime" with Israeli shlichim (emissaries), and participate in evening social events.

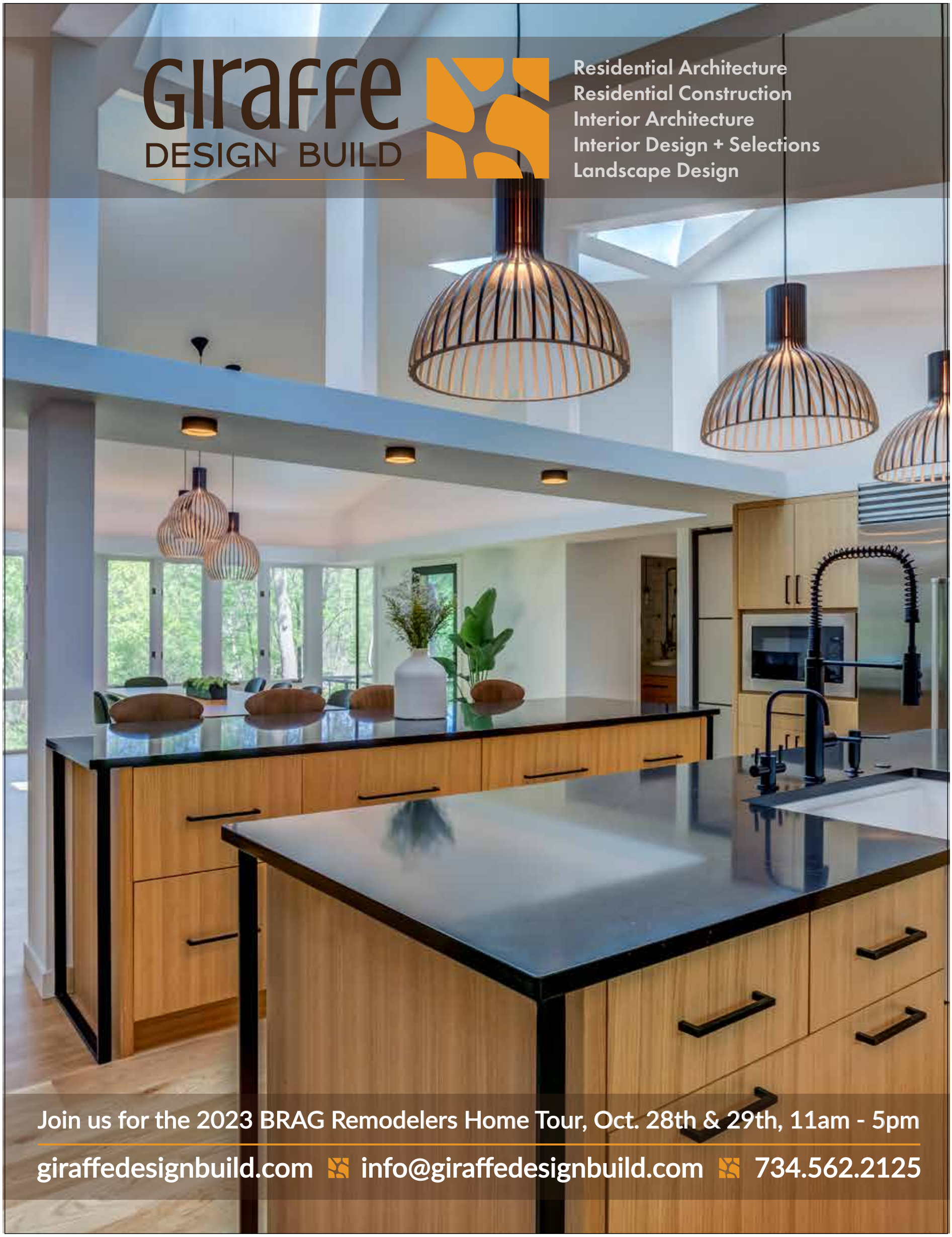
As a teenager growing up in Ann Arbor, I was part of the Ann Arbor JCC Maccabi delegation and played on the girls' basketball team, traveling to Pittsburgh and Cleveland. Fast forward to 2007, I was living and working in Orange County, California. I experienced what it was like to be part of the host community as Orange County hosted JCC Maccabi twice, once in 2007 and again in 2009.

In 2014, I moved back to Michigan to be the 2014 JCC Maccabi Games and ArtsFest Director in Detroit. In 2019, Detroit hosted again, and my family opened up our home as a host family. But the highlight of all my experiences was being asked to be a part of the JCC Association's staff team in Israel for the 2023 JCC Maccabi Games Israel.

Every community and experience is a little different, but at the end of the day, JCC Maccabi is about engaging Jewish teens. Standing in line for lunch among 1,000 teenagers, you could hear English, Hebrew, Spanish, French, and even Russian — talk about a mix of cultures! The final boys' soccer match, Israel vs. Los Angeles, showed true rachmanus, team spirit, as each player shook hands and stayed to watch the medal ceremony. Every athlete and coach participated in JCC Cares throughout their time in Israel.

Ilan Israel was just one of several organizations we partnered with to provide our athletes and coaches a meaningful experience. Israelis come to Ilan Israel to train in a variety of recreational activities. These individuals who come to train all have some physical disabilities, but Ilan Israel provides opportunities for them to live meaningful, quality lives. JCC Maccabi athletes played wheelchair basketball, did ballroom dancing in wheelchairs, and heard firsthand from two paralympic Israeli athletes. The week culminated with a closing party at Maccabi Tzari's youth village where 1,000 teenagers, 500 coaches, 1,000 volunteers, and leaders all spoke about what JCC Maccabi is and passed the torch off to the next host communities, Houston and Detroit.

Ann Arbor is putting together a delegation for the Detroit JCC Maccabi Games, July 28–August 2, 2024. Possible Detroit sports include basketball, soccer, volleyball, tennis, swimming, dance, and baseball. Come and be a part of this amazing, life-changing experience! If you are interested in being an athlete, coach, volunteer, or host family, please reach out to Ariella Monson, ariellamonson@jccannarbor.org for more information. ■


giraffe
DESIGN BUILD
Residential Architecture
Residential Construction
Interior Architecture
Interior Design + Selections
Landscape Design
Join us for the 2023 BRAG Remodelers Home Tour, Oct. 28th & 29th, 11am - 5pm
giraffedesignbuild.com
info@giraffedesignbuild.com
734.562.2125

Torah commands both love and vengeance. In Israel, we face that contradiction every day.

By Haviva Ner-David, originally for the JTA in July 2021

KIBBUTZ HANNATON, Israel —

Like Tikvah, one of the two main characters in my debut novel, Hope Valley, I moved to Israel out of Zionist ideology. Growing up, I went to Zionist schools and summer camps, where I imbibed the narrative that after 2,000 years of exile and oppression, even genocide, we, the few, defeated the many evil nations who were out to destroy us, and created a third Jewish sovereignty here on this land promised to us by God.

But once living on this land, I slowly began to open my eyes, ears, and heart, and realized I had only been told part of the story. Like Tikvah, who meets the Palestinian protagonist of my novel, Rabia (or Ruby), and hears her family's story, I began to form close friendships with Palestinians and to look beneath the surface of what I had been taught. I did my own research and listened to my friends' family stories, and I began to get a broader picture.

In Deuteronomy, I hear echoes of the Zionist narrative of my upbringing. Moses tells the Israelites as they are about to cross the Jordan River into Canaan:

If you shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love YHVH your God, to walk in all God's ways, and to hold fast to God, then will God drive out all these nations from before you, and you shall possess greater nations and mightier than yourselves. Every place where the sole of your foot shall tread shall be yours; from the wilderness to the Levanon, from the river, the River of Perat, to the uttermost sea, shall be your border. There shall no man be able to stand against you. (Deut. 10:22–24)

Moreover, we are told:

You shall consume all of the peoples which YHVH your God shall deliver to you. Your eyes shall not have pity on them, and you shall not worship their gods. For that will be a snare for you. (Deut. 7:15)

As I read these words, I want to close the book in dismay. If this is what my most sacred religious text tells me, then this religion is not for me. But then another verse in the same portion catches my eye: "And love the stranger because you were strangers in Egypt" (Deut. 9:19). I grasp onto this lone voice of collective memory that is not about vengeance but rather love and compassion.

These are the two voices I heard inside my head as missiles were falling on us weeks ago, and much of the world did seem to have turned against Israel and the Jews. There is an enemy who wants to wipe us out. There is antisemitism. There is an anti-Israel bias. Our collective trauma is not unfounded. How easy it would be to turn to these words for justification to close the heart I worked hard to open.

But how can I love the stranger if my heart is hardened? If I cannot have compassion on the stranger, how can I love her?

In this same Torah portion, we are told to love not only the stranger, but to love God — with all of our hearts and all of our souls (Deut. 9:12). How can I love this vengeful God with my heart when my heart is a compassionate heart? How can I love this jealous, power-hungry God with my soul when my soul is an expansive universalist soul? Does having no pity align with what we today call "Jewish values"? Perhaps for some it does, but for this human with this heart and this soul, it does not.

I am reminded of the powerful documentary film Blue Box, directed by Michal Weits, great granddaughter of Yosef Weitz, the mastermind of the Zionist plan to create a Jewish majority in a sovereign Jewish State. The Jews were a minority on this land before 1948, which is why they were happy to accept the Partition Plan. When the surrounding Arab countries attacked, this was a license to change those demographics. When the Arabs left in fear, their villages were razed and they were not allowed to return.

According to the many diaries Yosef Weitz left behind, he carried out this plan with a heavy heart, as he did feel compassion for the Arabs refugees he was creating, but he felt at the time that it was "us or them." He assumed the surrounding Arab countries would absorb the Palestinians, whereas Jewish refugees had nowhere else to go.

But the Palestinian refugees were not absorbed, and he had a change of heart — especially in 1967 when occupying the West Bank and Gaza Strip reversed much of what he had accomplished. With annexation, Palestinians would again be a majority on this land. With occupation, Jews would be mistreating the stranger. At that point in history, the Jews were no longer the powerless refugees they were in 1948. But matters were out of his hands.

The words in Deuteronomy tear me apart — if we are truly meant to read it as a recipe for how to live today. But what if we aren't? What if we are meant to read it as a recipe of what not to do today? What if instead of trying to repeat history, we are meant to correct it? The Jews were sovereign on this land twice already, and it did not end well.

As Ruby tells Tikvah about her mandala art in my novel: "These paintings combine the linear and the circular. As does life. We move forward as we spiral back to our core. Each reconnection to our essence strengthens us for the next spiral. Hopefully even correcting past mistakes, healing old wounds."

I am part of a growing movement in Israel to create a shared society, a true partnership of equals.

Should we insist on the borders God promised us in Deut. 10:23, or should we take the spiral path forward, look beyond Deuteronomy, inward to our "hearts of flesh" (Ezekiel 36:29), and find a new way to live here in this land that does not pit "us" against "them"? I am part of a growing movement in Israel to create a shared society, a true partnership of equals. It is hard work, but it is the only way to spiral out of this vicious cycle dating back to the biblical Ishmael and Isaac.

In my novel, when Tikvah and Ruby meet, they are suspicious and fearful of each other. But slowly, as they recognize each other's humanity and acknowledge each other's pain, they build a deep and true friendship which ends up being the corrective of the novel's backstory in 1948. Let's hope fiction can one day become reality.

Rabbi Haviva Ner-David is a rabbi, writer and spiritual companion. She runs Shmaya: A Mikveh for Mind, Body and Soul, on Kibbutz Hannaton, where she lives. She is the author of two published memoirs and one forthcoming (Dreaming Against the Current: A Rabbis' Soul Journey). Hope Valley, which came out in 2021, was her debut novel. Her most novel is To Die in Secret. ■

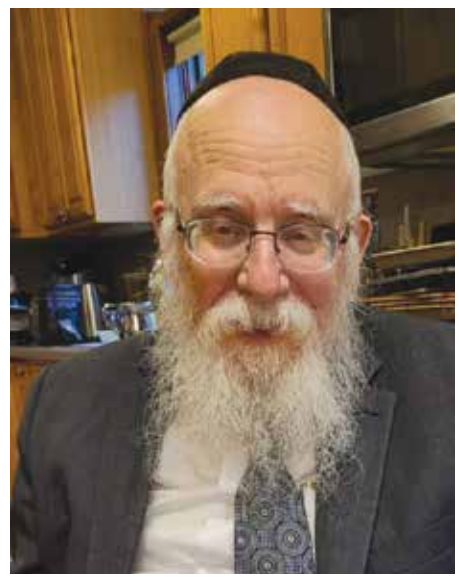
"Our mouths will be filled with laughter."

Rabbi Aharon Goldstein, Chabad of Ann Arbor

The mitzva (commandment) of lulav and etrog requires us to take branches or fruit from four different species of trees (these two and the myrtle and the willow) and combine them in the performance of this mitzva. Our Sages explain that each of the species used for this mitzva refers to a different type of person, from the most spiritually developed to the least refined.

Therein is an obvious lesson. The mitzva cannot be fulfilled with only the etrog, the most elevated of the species. The willow — which in the analogy to people refers to those on the lowest levels — is also necessary. So, too, no person can attain fulfillment by remaining isolated, out of touch with others. Even the realization of his individual potential cannot be complete without him reaching out to others and joining together with them.

Our Sages explain that the lulav and the etrog are a victory symbol, indicating our vindication in the judgment of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur. When we stand bound together in unity, as the lulav and etrog



teach, we can be assured of positive blessings in the year to come.

In our prayers, we describe Sukkot as "The Season of Our Rejoicing." This theme will reach its ultimate fulfillment in the era of Moshiach, when, as the Prophet relates, our people will return to the Land of Israel "crowned with eternal joy." And as it says in Psalms: "Then [— as opposed to now —] our mouths will be filled with laughter."

In previous generations, Jews did not need explanations why happiness was associated specifically with Moshiach's time. It was quite obvious. By and large, they did not live in happy times. But they knew that this sadness was not forever. At one point, the trials and tribulations of the exile would end and they would enjoy happiness and joy.

Today, however, when a person can enjoy all the comforts that a free and affluent society has to offer, we are able to ask: What is so special about the happiness that Moshiach will provide?

Although our Sages explain that we will have peace, prosperity, and well-being in the era of the Redemption, these are not the essence of that time. They are merely the backdrop and the setting that will allow the message of the Redemption to be communicated more effectively.

In the present age, we're happy because things — good food, good people, good times — make us happy. In the era of Moshiach, we won't need external factors to make us feel happy. We will feel happy because we're alive — because we have a soul and because we're living in G-d's world. This awareness will be as real to us as material reality is today.

We have the potential to appreciate a foretaste of this happiness in the present era. It is true that at present our knowledge of spirituality is merely intellectual, and only in the future era will we have firsthand experience of the spiritual core in our own being and in the world at large. Nevertheless, even today, knowing that this is the truth and focusing on it intensely can grant us a glimmer of this awareness and a sampling of the happiness that will result from it.

Tasting this happiness and sharing it with others will precipitate the time when this mindset will spread throughout all existence and "our mouths will be filled with laughter."■

Making the most of our Jewish communal survey

By David Schoem

Credit is due to the leadership of the Jewish Federation of Washtenaw County as they have embarked upon a long overdue community demographic survey to gather baseline data about the local Jewish community.

My hope in writing this short article is that our Washtenaw Jewish community can learn from past experience with these kinds of local and national Jewish community surveys and go productively beyond the initial survey results we all look forward to hearing about this fall. In recent history, these demographic surveys have left much to be desired, have too often been misinterpreted in shaping Jewish organizational strategic planning, and have too often led to incomplete and misinformed understandings of the Jewish communities. I know our local community can do better.

Below I list some of the key concerns that have been raised with Jewish demographic surveys and how they have been used, and I offer some proposed steps to address these concerns.

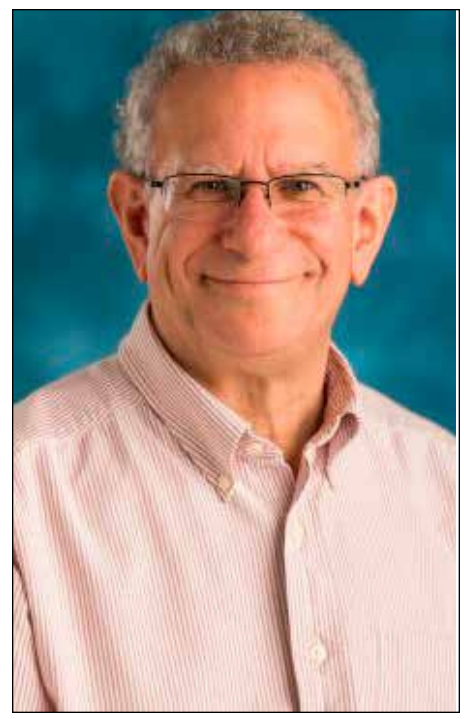
#1 — Most Jewish communal surveys ask questions determined by survey researchers, organizational leaders, and donors, and do not ask individual Jews to explain in their own words how they identify as Jews, how they behave/practice as Jews, how they experience Jewish organizations like federations or synagogues, etc.

Today, individual Jews identify, define themselves, and practice their Jewishness in a wide variety of ways. Fortunately, there are some Jewish researchers who have made a point of reaching out to a wide cross-section of individual Jews to make sure their voices, identities, and viewpoints are heard in all their complexities. In the case of the survey conducted in our Washtenaw County, as with most communities, it is disappointing that these researchers were not selected to conduct the initial survey.

Proposed Action Step: Hopefully, the survey from the selected research team can be supplemented with more in-depth and qualitative research to hear firsthand the nuanced, complex, and different ways members of our local Jewish community(ies) identify, define themselves, and practice being Jewish.

#2 — Most Jewish Communal Survey Instruments have not counted or captured the voices of marginalized Jews, such as Jews of Color, LGBTQ Jews, middle, working-class and poor Jews, single adults and couples without children, younger Jews, non-affiliated Jews, and many others.

While the leadership of Jewish organizations, their board members, and major donors, are without question well-meaning, well-intentioned, and hardworking, they also skew heavily toward a certain demographic profile: white, wealthy, straight, and older. When they make policy and offer programs for their members and communities with the very best intentions for all, the policies and programs are often limited in that they reflect their own status and place in society rather than being fully inclusive. While it's certainly true that many Jewish organizations are generous funders of the



poorest Jews, and that some Jewish organizations are welcoming to LGBTQ Jews, for instance, there could be much greater inclusivity in membership and leadership. For instance, many are surprised to learn that various surveys of the Jewish community in the U.S. estimate that Jews of Color represent 8–20% of the population. Programs almost always have a price or focus that prohibits many from participating, without any apparent awareness that the message to Jews in the community who are not white, wealthy, straight, or older is that these organizations are not welcoming places for them.

Proposed Action Steps: Fortunately, there are some researchers who have been leaders in identifying marginalized Jews in local Jewish communities and, while they were not tapped for our local study, follow-up research and outreach could be conducted to intentionally reach to marginalized and disenfranchised Jews in our community to hear their voices and to get an accurate count of their numbers. In addition, the current leadership and governing boards of our Jewish organizations also desperately need to make room (even step aside) for significant leadership and decision-making roles by younger people in the 20–50 age range, Jews who aren't in the top one to 10 percent financially, Jews of Color, LGBTQ Jews, single Jewish adults, and others. There also needs to be intentional and energetic outreach to all those who feel marginalized, unwelcome, or dissatisfied with Jewish organizations to welcome them to shape and participate in Jewish community.

#3 — Jewish Communal Surveys, which are funded by Jewish organizations, study individual Jews and intentionally never examine or interrogate Jewish organizations.

Many Jewish organizations face declining membership/affiliation and/or declining participation even from those who are affiliated. However, most Jewish organizations, from federations to synagogues and others, have not systematically sought out the opinions of their members or of the wider Jewish community to identify the cause of these declines in affiliation and participation.

These Jewish communal surveys are developed by research teams whose funding is dependent upon providing Jewish organizations the answers to questions they want to learn about and to offer new paths for fundraising, never challenging the foundational practices or leadership of their organizations. The findings often assume that our Jewish organizations are doing most things right and that we should maintain the status quo, albeit with recommendations for some minor tweaking here and there.

Proposed Action Steps: There could be a follow-up study(ies) of the local Jewish organizations, asking the local Jewish community what their view is of these organizations, why they do or do not affiliate, whether and why they participate actively or do not participate even though they are affiliated, and what their suggestions are for changes and how to move forward. In addition, as stated above, there also needs to be intentional outreach to all those who feel marginalized, unwelcome, or alienated from Jewish organizations to systematically welcome them to participate in the Jewish community.

#4 — The "problems" facing the Jewish community, as some past surveys have been interpreted, have been located in individuals rather than organizations, and have resulted in further dividing the Jewish community, rather than unifying it. Jewish organizations, based on past communal surveys, have categorized Jews as "core" Jews or "peripheral" Jews, and have made funding and policy decisions based on these categories.

Instead of celebrating the diversity and embracing inclusivity of the Jewish community in terms of social identities and how different Jews define and practice their Jewish identity and their desire for Jewish community, Jewish communal and religious leaders have in past decades characterized some Jews as good and some, unfortunately, as not so good. The "core" Jews, or the good Jews, were those who indicated in the surveys that they donate to Federation, belong to a synagogue, travel to Israel, send their children to Jewish Day Schools, marry other Jews, light candles or attend services on the Jewish Sabbath, etc. Some Jewish social scientists and organizational and religious leaders suggested that these "core" Jews represented the strongest cohort for the continuation of the Jewish people.

For years Jewish communal leaders warned and did fundraising in the community over the concern of "continuity," for what they declared was the worrying decline of the Jewish population in the U.S., even though the data clearly showed that the Jewish population in the U.S. was growing significantly. Some Federation and Jewish religious leaders across the country urged more funding for Jewish Day Schools, counseled against interfaith marriages and chastised those who did intermarry, and some even blamed the imagined decline on Jewish women for not having more babies.

At the same time, those who felt disenfranchised or alienated from the organized Jewish community were castigated and made to feel even more estranged and "peripheral."

Proposed Action Steps: In these perilous times of ever-growing antisemitism and threats to American democracy, it's increasingly important, especially in a smaller community like ours, to find ways to come together as a whole, unified community. A first essential step would be to be thoughtful and inclusive in how the results of the initial research and (hopefully) subsequent studies are interpreted and communicated. Next, though many feel strongly about our distinct and separate approaches to Jewish life that are represented by multiple religious denominations and secular organizations, we should actively identify ways to bring our Jewish youth together across their various social identities and religious denominations by intentionally reaching out and supporting all Jewish youth in 1) their secular settings (such as public schools), and/or by sponsoring 2) a single Jewish youth group and/or 3) a single Sunday/afternoon religious school rather than segregating our youth by religious denominations. We might also consider doing things such as holding a single location for Shabbat services of different denominations, or at least a common community-wide Kiddush following Shabbat services.

We also must build strong, collaborative relations with other racial, religious, ethnic, etc. groups in the local community, not just now in response to growing antisemitism, racism, and political polarization, but for the long-term health of our democracy and the well-being of each and every person in our community.

Finally, it's time to begin to explore radically different yet still robust funding models to sustain our communities, but with more accessible models for membership and participation in Jewish organizations, and a rethinking of the seeming exclusivity in honoring and recognizing only those who are the very wealthiest and the biggest donors in the community in terms of monetary gifts.

I fully recognize that members of the Jewish community certainly may not agree with all or many of the proposed action steps. I offer them in a spirit of beginning a serious conversation as to how best to strengthen our Jewish community, and welcome different points of view and different suggestions for change. The Federation and other sponsors of the local survey are to be commended for taking this first step. I look forward to the thoughtful and inclusive next steps to follow.

David Schoem is a long-time member of the Jewish Community of Washtenaw County. ■

Scanning the blogs for fall recipes without the meat

Lonnie Sussman, special to the WJN

Sometimes I think that cooking for the fall holidays means one should be excused from meal preparation for the next six months until one needs to start cooking again for Passover. But then I get realistic as well as occasionally inspired to try out some new recipes. I didn't include any meat or chicken recipes this month nor even a fish recipe, but I promise there will be some for November.

I don't mean to suggest that everyone should become vegans or vegetarians, it's just to indicate my interest in making these types of meals. So here is a random selection of easy-to-make recipes from a wide variety of sources, and one of these days I will also sign up for the New York Times Cooking Blog. Currently at least half a dozen or so blogs show up on my email weekly, or maybe it's daily, they just keep coming. With the NY-Times blog you can type in some items you have in your pantry or refrigerator, and then they send you a recipe using those ingredients. I am tired of trying to think of what to make but the NYTimes blog sounds like a good place to start.

Black Eyed Peas Emeril Lagasse

From *Food and Wine* magazine

I stumbled on this recipe from an email from *Food and Wine*. I don't remember ever using a recipe from this magazine, but I am interested in ways to make black eyed peas other than recipes I've already tried. Sometimes the canned peas are fine, but the soaked, dry peas are better for this recipe.

- 2½ cups dried black eyed peas, soaked overnight
- ¼ cup olive oil
- ¼ cup fresh lemon juice
- 2 tsp minced garlic
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste
- ¼ cup chopped parsley to garnish

Cover the peas with about 2 inches of water, bring the pot to a boil, then lower the temperature to medium. Cook about 20 minutes or until the texture is soft but not mushy. Make the dressing in a large bowl by adding the olive oil, lemon juice, minced garlic, chopped onion and salt and pepper. Then add the cooked peas and refrigerate for 4 hours. Add the parsley when you are ready to serve.

Chocolate Covered Stuffed Medjool Dates

(*May I Have That Recipe?* Food blog for vegan recipes)

This is an easy, no bake idea for snacks or dessert with some alternate ideas for the stuffing.

22–24 Medjool dates, slit horizontally and pits removed.

- 3 tbs toasted sesame seeds, plus more for sprinkling
- ⅔ cup of tahini
- ¼ cup powdered sugar
- ⅛–¼ tsp cardamom
- ½ cup chocolate chips
- 2 tsp coconut oil

Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and place the pitted dates on it. Whisk together the tahini, powdered sugar, then add the sesame seeds and cardamom and mix. Stuff the dates with about 1–1¼ tsp of the stuffing. Place on the lined baking sheet and put in freezer for about 10–15 minutes. Combine the chocolate chips and coconut oil in bowl and microwave for 20 second increments until the mixture is melted. Remove the dates from the freezer, dip halfway into the melted chocolate, and sprinkle additional seeds on the chocolate if you want. Return to the freezer until ready to serve.

Other combinations to use for stuffing are pistachios and maple syrup, almond flour, sugar and orange blossom water, hazelnut, and agave. I don't have any measurements for those ideas, but I think they would be like the ones for tahini and powdered sugar.

Tomato Curry

Swasthi's Recipes (This site is on Instagram but I'm not. I just found it on the internet when I looked up recipes for tomato curry.)

Serves 3 but easy to double

This recipe idea is from a conversation I had with a woman I recently met. She is of Mexican heritage and married to someone from India. We were talking about stuffing the dates (see above) and she told me she makes a tomato curry to use as stuffing. It's also used over rice.

- 3 large tomatoes, skinned if you prefer and chopped (or a can of chopped tomatoes)
- ¾ to 1 cup chopped onions
- 1 green chili, slit (optional for those of us who can't tolerate heat)
- 1 sprig curry leaves (we have several stores selling Indian foods in Ann Arbor)
- 1 tsp chopped or crush garlic (optional)
- 1–2 tbs oil
- ¼ tsp mustard seeds
- ¼–½ tsp cumin seeds
- 1 pinch asafetida powder (optional)
- ¼ tsp turmeric
- ⅓ tsp salt
- ¼ cup coconut milk
- 1½–2 tbs almond meal (optional)

Add oil to a pan and toast the cumin and mustard seeds. When they start to sizzle, add the curry leaves, green chili, garlic, and asafetida if using. Let them fry for about a minute or two. Add the chopped onions and salt and sauté lightly, not necessarily to golden color. Add the chopped tomatoes and turmeric and sauté another 3–4 minutes. Cover and cook until the tomatoes are mushy and add the chili powder and almond meal and cook for about 2–3 minutes or until the curry turns thick. Add the coconut milk and add more salt if needed. When the tomato mixture begins to bubble, turn off the heat. Serve over rice or stuff a little into the dates.

Sesame Peanut Noodles

Freshman in the Kitchen, Max and Eli Sussman and published by Steve Shira Klein in 1985

Serves 2–4

Max and Eli have gone on to careers in restaurants and in running a couple of restaurants. Max is usually found in Ann Arbor, helping with the pizza at the Dixboro Project restaurant. Eli lives in Brooklyn and he and Max jointly own Samesa, a food place at Rockefeller Center. Eli is also involved with the new Brooklyn restaurant, gertrude's. This recipe is from their first cookbook (thanks to Steve and Shira), but Max and Eli have also published three other cookbooks. No, they are not our sons but, yes, they are our nephews. It's a very easy recipe filled with terrific flavors.

- ½ lb dry spaghetti
- 3 tbs crunchy peanut butter
- ¼ cup soy sauce
- 1 tbs seasoned rice vinegar
- 1 tsp chili sauce
- 3 tbs water
- 1 tsp brown sugar
- 1 small clove minced garlic
- 1 carrot, shredded
- 3 green onions, thinly sliced
- 1 cucumber, medium dice
- 1 tbs sesame seeds

Cook the spaghetti according to the directions on the box. Drain and rinse the pasta and then toss with 2 tbs sesame oil.

Combine the peanut butter, soy sauce, seasoned rice vinegar, chili sauce, water, brown sugar, garlic, ginger, and remaining tablespoon sesame oil in a mixing bowl.

Toss the pasta with the peanut sauce mixture, ½ the carrot, ½ the green onion, and the cucumber.

Transfer to a serving dish and garish with sesame seeds, remaining carrot, and remaining green onion.

Spinach and Chickpeas Baked with Greek Feta

Diane Kochilas' website

Serves 4

I first saw Diane Kochilas on PBS on a show called *My Greek Table*. Then I saw her on Facebook and signed up for her weekly newsletter or blog or whatever it is. Since I'm already interested in the so called "Mediterranean Diet," I've continued to read the weekly information and enjoy hearing her voice. Since I'm interested in easy and simple, this appeals to me. Usually, I simply roast chickpeas, some tomatoes cut into smaller pieces or the cherry tomatoes, olive oil, salt, and a little cumin. Sometimes I add red onion slices or white onion slices and finish with feta crumbles.

- 8 cups trimmed and coarsely chopped raw spinach
- 2 cups cooked dried chickpeas or 2 cans of chickpeas
- 1 large red or yellow onion, finely chopped (I prefer slices)
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- Sea salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste. I really like sprinkling a little cumin on as well.
- ½ cup chopped fresh dill (it makes everything tasty) or fennel fronds. You could also add the bulbs to the sheet pan with the other ingredients.
- One 3½ inch square by ½ inch thick piece of Greek feta
- Juice of ½ lemon (a nice addition for the tang)
- ⅓ cup olive oil (Diane Kochilas always uses Greek extra virgin olive oil)

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. I like the chickpeas to really crisp up.

Lightly oil a big baking dish or a sheet pan with edges about 2 inches high. She suggests layering in the spinach and lightly salting and kneading a little to lower the volume. Add everything else and nestle the block of feta in the middle. Add a little more olive oil on top. Bake for about 30–45 minutes, depending on whether you roast at 350 or 400 degrees. Check for the feta being soft and melty and the veggies all soft and melding together. When you serve the dish, swirl in the feta so it mixes with everything. ■

A taste of Egypt . . . in Dexter

By Candace Bulkley and Trina Fuller

Candace and Trina became friends in the Temple Beth Emeth adult b-mitzvah class that graduated in 2022. They will be honing their palates, visiting, and writing about a variety of independent, locally owned Washtenaw County restaurants, catering to a variety of dietary preferences.

The Metro Detroit area is home to over a quarter million culturally and religiously diverse people from the Middle East, and Southeastern Michigan is known for its excellent selection of Middle Eastern restaurants. Whatever your dietary lifestyle may be, this regional cuisine has you covered without making you feel like your meal was an afterthought. Based on the sheer quantity and quality of local restaurants, it seems we can't get enough of this simple yet incredible food. Many of the local establishments serve a tried and true Lebanese style of fare with some more diverse traditional dishes hiding in plain sight — those were the hidden gems we found at La Marsa.

Always on the lookout for interesting new spots around town, we noticed that La Marsa was getting rave reviews on social media and decided to take a ride out to Dexter to investigate.

We found the restaurant easily, located in a nondescript strip mall with plenty of parking, next to a dog grooming business. It looked like your average neighborhood Middle Eastern restaurant — which it was in many ways.

There are some standard-bearers in Middle Eastern food you must try to see how they stack up against others you have had. Not surprisingly, we started with a plate of hummus and a sample of baba ghanouj, which our server was kind enough to arrange. The dips arrived quickly and were accompanied by a basket of freshly baked pita (no plastic baggies of pre-cut pita here) and a not-to-be-missed toum — the wonderful garlic dip no one ever knew was missing from their life until their first taste. The baba ghanouj was well seasoned, with a lemony brightness that complimented the smoky, finely chopped eggplant. On the other hand, the hummus was lackluster. It was not especially smooth or luxurious as some we have eaten and not as garlicky or tahini-forward as others.

Standard-bearers aside, we decided to dig deeper into the menu to try some items new to us. And we were rewarded. From the appetizer menu we ordered fool (ful), described as fava beans sautéed with tomatoes, onions, and seasonings. We later learned, when the general manager stopped by our table to check on us, this is a typical Middle Eastern breakfast dish with as many variations as there are mothers cooking it. One diner's trepidation turned to pure joy with their first bites of this simple yet complex and oh-so-flavorful homestyle dish. The fava beans were served with a plate of olives, sliced jalapeno, and sliced raw onion. We were instructed to put it all in a pita with a drizzle of olive oil; you will be transported! This is a dish that is meant to be shared but you might not want to after trying it. Bonus points: Fool (ful) is vegan and gluten free.

While waiting for our entrée, we sampled the vegetarian crushed lentil soup and a fattoush salad with chicken shawarma. The richly colored soup was well seasoned and had a light touch of lemon flavor balancing the warmth of cumin and was quite good. The salad greens and vegetables were fresh and were tossed with the traditional tart sumac vinaigrette. The chicken shawarma served on the side could have been hotter and fresher. Although, the leftovers made into a sandwich later were redeemed.

Another unusual item caught our eye, koshary, which was offered on the traditional menu. Now, while reading this in the Washtenaw Jewish News, you might think that we misspelled Kosher, but no: koshary (koshari) the general manager explained, is considered to be the national dish of Egypt, which originated nearly 5,000 years ago in India. Most people buy it from their favorite vendor for lunch in the open-air markets. This is indeed a curious dish which makes no sense — until you taste it. La Marsa's version contained rice, lentils, two types of pasta (spaghetti and elbow macaroni), and a thick tomato sauce, and was topped with golden fried onions. On the side you are served a cumin-tinged vinegar dressing (mild or spicy) which you pour on top before digging in. What didn't make sense to the brain made sense to the palate. It is the type of wholesome, warm dish that would be perfect to warm up on a brisk fall day.

At the most basic level, Middle Eastern food consists of the same simple ingredients we all know and probably eat often: bread, fresh vegetables, legumes, rice, and meat. The magic happens in the aromatic warmth of seasoning, skilled preparation, and very long culinary tradition. It's also amenable to different dietary needs, especially plant-based diets. We are very fortunate to have such cultural diversity in our midst and were delighted to sample some of the Egyptian flavors of Middle Eastern food in addition to the Lebanese specialties that are more familiar in this area.

Jump off the beaten path and try something new from the menu the next time you dine out!

La Marsa
7049 Ann Arbor Rd., Dexter
734.580.2342

www.lamarsacuisine.com ■

ORT Ann Arbor fall event

By Joan Levitt

On Sunday, October 15, at 10:30 a.m., the Ann Arbor Chapter of ORT America will host its fall opening event. Members and potential members are invited to meet in person for a delicious brunch at a member's home. The guest speaker will be Andi Wolfe, a member of ORT America's Executive Board. Her talk will describe how ORT continues to advance and enhance education in Israel and throughout the world.

This year, ORT Ann Arbor has a special role to play in providing ORT's high-quality education in Kiryat Yam, Israel, near Haifa. Kiryat Yam is home to a large working-class community, with a significant number of immigrants from the Former Soviet Union, North Africa, and Ethiopia.

The chapter's donations will help first- and second-graders in Kiryat Yam participate in the Early Childhood Robotics Education Program, which is now only offered to kindergarteners. Through playful experimentation with robots, the students can effortlessly acquire fundamental programming concepts and hone their logical thinking and computational skills, leading to their future success in school and ability to achieve economic independence.

The fall event provides an opportunity to learn about ORT America's important work supporting World ORT's schools and high-tech training programs around the world. It is also an opportunity for the chapter to support ORT's activities in Ukraine. Since the war broke out in February 2022, ORT has been actively addressing the needs of approximately 4,000 ORT Ukraine staff, students, and families. The needs for safe schools with well-stocked shelters, humanitarian aid, and counseling remain extremely high. It is suggested that attendees make a contribution of $18 to ORT America for the ORT Ukraine Emergency Fund.

Participants at the opening brunch will have the opportunity to meet old and new friends and to learn about the Ann Arbor chapter's activities, including the popular book and movie groups. For more information or to rsvp, please contact Eileen Thacker at tethacker@yahoo.com. For further information about ORT and ORT Ann Arbor, check the websites www.ortamerica.org and www.ortannarbor.org. ■

After 20 years, still refusing to be enemies

By Ellen Schwartz

Ann Arbor filmmaker Laurie White has received a $6,000 grant from the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act Allocation) grant program of Creative Washtenaw. Commenting on this, White says, "I'm very grateful to be the recipient of this award. These funds will support my work writing and editing a new film, 'Still Refusing to Be Enemies: Zeitouna at 20.'"

The new film will update the story of Zeitouna, a group of Palestinian and Jewish women who meet bimonthly to engage in the process known as Dialogue. Founded in 2002, this group has met continuously for 20 years. It has led not only to increased knowledge and understanding among its members, but through outreach activities, it has opened eyes in the wider community to the possibilities of engaging with groups with whom you disagree.

Zeitouna and its work was first introduced by White's earlier film, *Refusing to Be Enemies: The Zeitouna Story*, which premiered in 2007. (The film is viewable for free at https://vimeo.com/277399664.) The sequel will show how the group has developed and learned even more about using Dialogue to address the growing divides in our country and abroad. Laurie White emphasized how the grant will allow her "to create a compelling visual piece of work that serves as a means to persuade others that Dialogue can work to bridge the divide between populations, and within populations holding diverse opinions."

Laurie White has lived in Ann Arbor for 39 years. She is involved with social justice and peace initiatives, working as a community organizer and psychotherapist. She has been involved with filmmaking since 1986.

To learn more about her new project, see the Zeitouna website https://refusingtobeenemies.org/wordpress/. We hope its story will encourage further support from organizations and individuals. To make a tax-exempt donation, visit https://refusingtobeenemies.org/wordpress/zeitouna-20-still-refusing-to-be-enemies/

Donations of all sizes are more than welcome! On-screen acknowledgement is available for donations of $100 or more.

Creative Washtenaw is a regional agency which advocates for and supports artists, creative workers, organizations, businesses, educators, and municipalities engaged in arts and creative industries in Washtenaw County. To find out more about their mission and opportunities, contact https://creativewashtenaw.org/. ■

JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF GREATER ANN ARBOR

LIFE & LEGACY Assuring JEWISH TOMORROWS

Thank you!

We recognize the greater Ann Arbor L'Dor V'Dor Circle, who have committed to the future of the greater Ann Arbor Jewish community with a legacy gift to one or more of the 11 local participating organizations.

Listing as of August 31, 2023

Joelle Abramowitz
Ellen and David (z"l) Abramson
Dr. Jeremy & Rabbi Sara Adler
Carol & Herb Amster (z"l)
Rav Jared & Sarit Anstandig
Harlene (z"l) & Henry Appelman
Levana & Stephen Aronson
Brad & Robin Axelrod
Richard & Deborah Ball
Bernie & Barb Banet
Ruth Bardenstein & Jim Roll
Laurie & Jeff Barnett
Dr. Adam & Tali Baruch
Leslie Bash
Irene Bayer
Yehuda Benet
Linda Bennett & Robert Bagramian
Mark & Fran Lewy Berg
Allison Berman
Lisa & Jeffrey Bernstein
Jesse Bernstein
Jack Billi & Sheryl Hirsch
Fraya Hirschberg Black
Dina & Herman (z"l) Brodsky
Corry Buckwalter
Charles (z"l) & Irene Butter
Stacy & Michael Carroll
Harriet & Gary Charson
Marjorie & Barry Checkoway
Ronald & Stephanie Chervin
Joshua & Marla Chinsky
Carl Cohen (z"l)
Deborah Keller-Cohen & Evan Cohen
Judy & Malcolm Cohen
Roger & Midge Cone
Arnold & Susan Coran
Elliot & Debbie Cosgrove
Alan & Bette Cotzin
Marc & Wendy Dabrusin
Mark Daskin & Babette Levy Daskin
Amy & Mike Davidoff
Rabbi Robert & Ellen Dobrusin
Moshe Dubov
Beulah Elving (z"l)
Judith E. & Todd M. Endelman
Ann S. Epstein
Lou (z"l) & Happy Feigelson
Sidney & Jean Fine (z"l)
Carol Finerman (z"l)
Annette Frank Fisch
Susan R. Fisher
Rabbi Marc Israel & Abbey Frank
Eileen & Gary Freed
Judith & Paul Freedman
Sen. Judith & Samuel (z"l) Freedman
Martha Ann Freedman (z"l)
Ruth P. Freedman
Aaron Fried and Dahlia Weinman
Mike & Liz Fried
James & Trina Fuller
Sylvia Funk
Ilana & Ari Gafni
Gregory & Osnat Gafni-Pappas
Julie Gales
Marilyn Gallatin (z"l)
Enid Galler
Charles Garvin
Rita & Charles (z"l) Gelman
Florence & Marvin Gerber
Steve & Joyce Gerber
Art Gershowitz and Barb Mazie
Evan Gerstein
Nanette Gill
Terri Ginsburg & Jeffrey Spoon
Zvi & Marlene (z"l) Gitelman
David & Susan Lockett Gitterman
Rachel Lipson Glick
Thea Glicksman
Dr. Mark Goldfarb
Ed & Mona Goldman
Richard Goldszer
Peter & Hanna Goodstein
Alexander Gotz (z"l)
Stephen Grand (z"l)
Shelley & Robert Greebel
Karra Greenberg & Joshua Pincus
Jayson & Laurie Greenberg
Toni Greenberg & Family
Susan & Barry Gross
Iosif Guberman
Daryl & Monroe (z"l) Hafter
Jeff Halter & Ellen Halter
Steven & Joyce Hamel
Hillary (z"l) & Ken Handwerger
Rebecca & Fred Hankin
Margaret & David Hannon
Susan Harris (z"l)
Cantor Regina & Mr. Avishay Hayut
Bobbi & David Heilveil
Matt Kaplan & Caroline Helton
Phyllis & David Herzig
Samuel Hirsch & Marti Walsh
Carol & Gideon (z"l) Hoffer
Cindee J. Howard
Jill Hunsberger
Eileen & Saul Hymans
Reuvain Israel
Jacob Itkin
Leslie H. Kamil
Matt Kaplan & Caroline Helton
Ralph Katz & Deborah Scott Katz
Rabba Yael & Rabbi Will Keller
Igor & Angela Keselman
Marc L. Kessler
Beth Kirschner
Steve & Shira Klein
Mark Kolins and Maria Abrahamsen
Jeremy & Marie-Adele Kress
Philip & Syma Kroll
Jessica 'Decky' Alexander & Bruce Kutinsky
Pamela & Stephen Landau
Wendy & Ted Lawrence
Judie & Jerry Lax
Steven Leber & Dina Shtull
Evan Caminker & Stacey Lee
Donald & Julia Levitt
Alan Levy and Susan Pollans
Carolyn Lichter
Carolyn & Paul Lichter
Evie S. Lichter
Evie & Allen Lichter
Arthur & Karen Lindenberg
Robin & Rod Little
Ellen & Phillip Lorang
Beth & Jonathan Lowe
Joan Lowenstein & Jonathan Trobe
Marty & Kathy Ludington
Donna & Michael Maddin
Nancy & Phil (z"l) Margolis
Betsy Yvonne Mark
Geralidine L. Markel, PhD & Sheldon F. Markel, MD
Jack & Cathy Marshall
Irwin and Fran Martin
Ed Stein & Pat McCune
Steve Merritt
Paul Metler
Tamara Meyerovich
Randy & Patti Milgrom
Newell & Myrna (z"l) Miller
Doug Mirell
Douglas Moffat
Bruce & Gayle Moyer
Hillary Murt & Bruce Friedman
Barry Nemon & Barbara Stark-Nemon
Sharon & Chuck Newman
Brian Norton & Stephanie Schechner
Marylen S. Oberman, Ph.D.
Martha Oleinick (z"l)
Susan & Mark Orringer
Stephen & Elizabeth Palms
William & JoAnn Parkus
Vicki Patraka
Edwin & Sure Pear
Donald C. & Edith B. Peltz (z"l)
Ruth Shumacher Petit
Karra Greenberg & Joshua Pincus
Joshua Pokempner & Gretchen Gardner
Robin & Joe Pollak
Mali Resnik
Reytsman
Steve & Kathy Rhodes
Dr. & Mrs. Shmuel Rohde
Cantor Annie Rose
Howard M. Rosen
Drs. Monica & Ben Rosen
Andrew & Marci Rosenberg
Jennifer & Eric Rosenberg
Prue & Ami (z"l) Rosenthal
Lauren Katz & Joel Rubenstein
Howard & Lisa Saulles
Robert & Kathleen Savit
Brian & Margot Schapiro
Skip and Lynn Schrayer
Dvora Schulman
Art & Mary Schuman
David Schuman
Dr. Jason M. Schwalb & Dr. Samantha K. Hendren
Diane & Larry Seegull in memory of Ezra Seegull ('22) (z"l)
Susan Sefansky & David Goldstein
Debra Chopp & Gil Seinfeld
Ronnie L. Shapiro
Carey & David Sherman
Martin B. & Maryann T. Shichtman
Rhonda & Stuart Simon
Elaine & Bob Sims
Brandy Sinco
Susan & Larry Slabotsky
Carol Smokler
Arthur & Elizabeth Solomon
Shmuel Solovyev
Gerald L. Sorokin
Tamar Springer and Steve Stancroff
Michelle Stern-Samberg & Warren Samberg
Bob Stone
Dave & Tara Stone
Joshua & Marci Sukenic
Larry & Roberta Tankanow
Eva E. Taylor (z"l)
Harriet Bakalar & Ed Tobes
Ilene & Norman Tyler
Fredda Unangst
Diane K. & Amiram Vinokur
Cady Vishniac
Rachel & Logan Wall
Laura A. Wallace
Avi Wasserman
Marshall Weinberg
Martha Weintraub and Peter Smith
Elise I. Weisbach
H & L Weisberg (z"l)
Zelma H. Weisfeld (z"l)
Rabbi Josh & Sarah Whinston
Donna Winkelman
Diane and Howard Wohl
Drs. Margo & Doug Woll
Alon Yaffe & Lisa Inoue
Sue Rauschl & Elaine Yeglic
Martha & Eric Young
David Zimet
Bob Zucker & Kris Freeark
Anonymous

HEBREW DAY SCHOOL OF ANN ARBOR
CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Jewish Community Center of Greater Ann Arbor
JFS Jewish Family Services of Washtenaw County
Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor
HILLEL UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO CREATE YOUR OWN JEWISH LEGACY, CONTACT THE ANN ARBOR LIFE & LEGACY MANAGER OSNAT GAFNI-PAPPAS AT OSNAT@JEWISHANNARBOR.ORG OR (734) 773-3538.

Calendar

October 2023

As our community eases into in-person events with sensitivity to changing pandemic safety, always check websites or call for updates before planning to attend anything listed here and for prayer services.

Sunday 1 Sukkot

Sukkot Morning Service: BIC 9:30 a.m.

Tanya: Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. 11 a.m.

Sukkot Family Picnic: Jewish People of Color Network. Bring a beverage and a dish to share. RSVP required to greenedm@umich.edu. 11:30 a.m. to 1p.m.

Sukkah Hop: HDS. Contact astern@hdsaa.org for addresses. 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Sukkah Hop: BIC. 4 p.m.

LGBTQ Night in the Sukkah: TBE. We're going to be telling some stories, inviting in LGBTQ Jewish heroes, singing songs, and schmoozing in the Sukkah. Join us - share a story (2 minutes or less!), hear others, and celebrate Sukkot! Registration requested by September 30 (for food planning). 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Monday 2 Sukkot

Fairy Sukkot with Rav Nadav and Family: BIC. Meet at the Peony Garden at the Arb to create fairy sukkot and sukkah greeters. All materials provided, just bring your imagination. 4 p.m.

Talmud Study with Rabbi Dobrusin (via Zoom): BIC. We read the text in Hebrew or Aramaic with an accompanying English translation and all discussions will be in English so no familiarity with Hebrew is required. This fall, we will be studying from the 8th chapter of the tractate Bava Kamma which deals with an individual's obligation to compensate for injuries caused to another person. The chapter begins with an extensive discussion of the rabbinic interpretation that "An eye for an eye" refers to monetary compensation. 4 p.m.

Adult B'nai Mitzvah: TBE. For inquiries, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 5:45 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. With questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 3 Sukkot

Twenty-five-minute Mindfulness with Jewish Spiritual Director Linda Greene: TBE and Pardes Hannah. 8:30 a.m.

Sukkah Hop: BIC. 5:30 p.m.

Queer Torah Study: TBE. Join us in person or via Zoom for a discussion of queer themes in the weekly Torah portion! Led by Ari Marcotte and Ari Smith. Guest leaders welcome! Contact Ari M (ari.j.marcotte@gmail.com) for more information. 7 p.m.

Tea and Torah for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m.

Wednesday 4 Sukkot

Yidish Tish: (Virtual) (Yiddish Conversation & Reading Group): Zoom. About 45 minutes each of conversation and reading. Free and open to all those interested in Yiddish language, literature, and culture, no matter what level of proficiency. For more information, to get the link, and to make certain that we are meeting on a specific day, please email Elliot H. Gertel at egertel@umich.edu at least one day before scheduled meeting day every Wednesday (except major Jewish holidays). 2 p.m.

WTBE Gift Shop Open for In-Person Shopping: TBE. Washtenaw County's Only Judaica Shop! 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Pizza in the Hut: BIC. 6 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 5 Sukkot

Backdoor Food Pantry Open: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Meditation with Claire Weiner: TBE. 5 p.m.

Pop Up Kosher Food Truck in the Hut: HDS and JCC. At the JCC. 5:30 p.m.

Talmud: Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. 8 p.m.

Friday 6 Sukkot

Candle Lighting 6:50 p.m.

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Whinston: TBE. Bring your lunch and learn with Rabbi Whinston during this informal and social gathering. We explore different ideas throughout the year with participants guiding our subjects. 12 p.m.

Shabbat Service with Special Guest Dan Nichols: TBE. 7:30 p.m.

WTBE Gift Shop Open for In-Person Shopping: TBE. Washtenaw County's Only Judaica Shop! 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday 7 Shemini Atzeret

Havdallah 7:48 p.m.

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Shabbat Shemini Atzeret Service: BIC. 9:30

Shabbat and Yizkor Service: TBE. 10 a.m.

Simchat Torah Extravaganza: BIC 5:15 p.m. dinner, the dancing 6 p.m.

Simchat Torah Event with Dan Nichols: TBE. 7 p.m.

Sunday 8 Simchat Torah

Simchat Torah Morning Service: BIC. 9:30 a.m.

Fall Fun Day: NextGen A2.

Dayenu/Give365 Alternative Lawn Planting: TBE. Volunteer to plant Alternative Lawn Display demo gardens. Come learn about native plants, pollinator habitats, and Dayenu's climate action efforts in Ann Arbor and nationally. Open to Temple Beth Emeth congregants and the wider Jewish community. 11 a.m.

Monday 9

Talmud Study with Rabbi Dobrusin (via Zoom): BIC. 4 p.m.

Adult B'nai Mitzvah: TBE. For inquiries, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 5:45 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. With questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 10

Twenty-five-minute Mindfulness with Jewish Spiritual Director Linda Greene: TBE and Pardes Hannah. 8:30 a.m.

Queer Torah Study: TBE. 7 p.m.

The 28th Wallenberg Medal and Lecture in honor of Lucas Benitez, Farmworker Leader. Rackham Auditorium. The Wallenberg Medal and Lecture ceremony is free and open to the public. Tickets are not required. Please direct any inquiries about the event and requests for event accommodations to wallenberglecture@umich.edu or 734-936-3973. 7:30 p.m.

Tea and Torah for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m.

Wednesday 11

Yidish Tish Conversation & Reading Group: every Wednesday, see above. 2 p.m.

WTBE Gift Shop Open for In-Person Shopping: TBE. Washtenaw County's Only Judaica Shop! 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 12

Cantor's (Jewish) Book Club: TBE. Cantor Hayut leads discussion. 11 a.m.

Backdoor Food Pantry Open: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Jewish War Veterans Special Meeting. At the JCC. 7 p.m.

Talmud: Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. 8 p.m.

Friday 13

Candle Lighting 6:38 p.m. Bereshit

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Whinston: TBE. Bring your lunch and learn with Rabbi Whinston during this informal and social gathering. We explore different ideas throughout the year with participants guiding our subjects. 12 p.m.

Elementary Shabbat and Dinner and Family Camp: TBE. Ages 5 - 10. Registration requested. $5 per person. 5:45 p.m.

WTBE Gift Shop Open for In-Person Shopping: TBE. Washtenaw County's Only Judaica Shop! 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Saturday 14

Havdallah 7:37 p.m.

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. Join us for a playful morning of Jewish songs, games, and stories. Challah and grape juice kiddush included. For kids age 1 through 1st grade and their parents, but all are welcome to join. 10:30 a.m.

Written in Breath: Yiddish Song as Commentary: BIC. Musician-in-Residence Anthony Russell will teach a class on Yiddish music and tefillah, and the intersection where they meet. 1 p.m.

Sunday 15 Rosh Hodesh Cheshvan

Second Saturday Morning Shabbat Service: AARC at the JCC. At the JCC. Led by Rabbi Gabrielle Pescador. Everyone is welcome! Zoom link will be sent out the week before the event. 10:30 a.m. to noon.

ORT Ann Arbor Fall Opening Brunch. Members and potential members are invited to meet in person for a delicious brunch at a member's home. The guest speaker will be Andi Wolfe, a member of ORT America's Executive Board. An $18 donation is suggested to help ORT America's Ukraine Emergency Fund. To RSVP, contact Eileen Thacker at tethacker@yahoo.com. 10:30 a.m.

Tanya: Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. 11 a.m.

Unexpected Gifts: A conference to honor Harlene Appleman (z"l): JCLP. 1 p.m.

Rosh Hodesh Circle: Pardes Hannah. Call Renee Robbins at 734-904-5459 for Zoom link. 7 – 8:30 p.m.

Monday 16 Rosh Hodesh Cheshvan

Adult B'nai Mitzvah: TBE. For inquiries, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 5:45 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. With questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 17

Twenty-five-minute Mindfulness with Jewish Spiritual Director Linda Greene: TBE and Pardes Hannah. 8:30 a.m.

Bereavement Group: TBE. 4 p.m.

Queer Torah Study: TBE. 7 p.m.

Spirituality Book Club with Cantor Emerita Annie Rose: TBE. 7 p.m.

"Abrahamic Vernaculars: Rivals Thinking Together": Padnos Public Engagement Lecture. Dr Rebecca Scharbach Wollenberg. 7 p.m.

Tea and Torah for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m.

Wednesday 18

Yidish Tish Conversation & Reading Group: Every Wednesday, see above. 2 p.m.

WTBE Gift Shop Open for In-Person Shopping: TBE. Washtenaw County's Only Judaica Shop! 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 19

Cantor's (Jewish) Book Club: TBE. Cantor Hayut leads discussion. 11 a.m.

Spirituality Book Club with Cantor Emerita Annie Rose: TBE. 12 p.m.

Aging Solo: TBE, BIC, JCC, JFC. At the JCC, Newman Lounge. 4 p.m.

Backdoor Food Pantry Open: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Talmud: Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. 8 p.m.

Friday 20

Candle Lighting 6:27 p.m. Noach

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Whinston: TBE. Bring your lunch and learn with Rabbi Whinston during this informal and social gathering. We explore different ideas throughout the year with participants guiding our subjects. 12 p.m.

WTBE Gift Shop Open for In-Person Shopping: TBE. Washtenaw County's Only Judaica Shop! 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

LGBTQ Shabbat Potluck: TBE. Join us for a Shabbat dinner and candle lighting with members of the local queer community! Bring a dish to share with others, make new friends and let us know what you'd like to see in future queer programming! Registration requested. 6 p.m.

Saturday 21

Havdallah 7:26 p.m.

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Study Session: Pardes Hannah. Call Renee Robbins at 734-904-5459 for Zoom link. 3 -5 p.m.

Sunday 22

AARC Book Club. Zoom only. Isabella Hammad, *Enter Ghost*. Please e-mail Greg Saltzman for the link. gsaltzman@albion.edu.12:30 – 2 p.m.

Monday 23

Tanya: Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. 11 a.m.

Talmud Study with Rabbi Dobrusin (via Zoom): BIC. 4 p.m.

Adult B'nai Mitzvah: TBE. For inquiries, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 5:45 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. With questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 24

Twenty-five-minute Mindfulness with Jewish Spiritual Director Linda Greene: TBE and Pardes Hannah. 8:30 a.m.

Queer Torah Study: TBE. 7 p.m.

Tea and Torah for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m.

Wednesday 25

Yidish Tish Conversation & Reading Group: Every Wednesday, see above. 2 p.m.

WTBE Gift Shop Open for In-Person Shopping: TBE. Washtenaw County's Only Judaica Shop! 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Theology Book Club: BIC. 8 p.m.

Thursday 26

Cantor's (Jewish) Book Club: TBE. Cantor Hayut leads discussion. 11 a.m.

Backdoor Food Pantry Open: TBE. 4–7 p.m.

Meditation with Claire Weiner: TBE. 5 p.m.

Talmud: Jewish Civil Law: Chabad. 8 p.m.

Friday 27

Candle Lighting 6:17 p.m. Lech Lecha

Lunch and Learn with Rabbi Whinston: TBE. 12 p.m.

WTBE Gift Shop Open for In-Person Shopping: TBE. Washtenaw County's Only Judaica Shop! 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Aura of Kabbalat Shabbat: BIC. A Jewish Renewal inspired singing service led by Rabbi Aura Ahuvia. The choir, dubbed the "Holy Levites," will be holding a rehearsal at 5:30 p.m leading right up to and seamlessly into services. All are welcome to attend. 6 p.m.

Fourth Friday Kabbalat Shabbat: AARC. In person at the JCC and on Zoom. This is a hybrid service led by Rabbi Gabrielle Pescador. Everyone is welcome! 6:30 p.m.

Saturday 28

Havdallah 7:16 p.m.

Havdallahween: NextGen A2. 7 p.m.

Torah Study: TBE. Weekly discussion of the Torah portion. 8:50–9:50 a.m.

Tot Shabbat: BIC. Join us for a playful morning of Jewish songs, games, and stories. Challah and grape juice kiddush included. For kids age 1 through 1st grade and their parents, but all are welcome to join. 10:30 a.m.

Sunday 29

Limmud Michigan. At the Morris Lawrence building at Washtenaw Community College.10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Tanya: Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. 11 a.m.

Monday 30

Tanya: Jewish Mysticism: Chabad. 11 a.m.

"Art Comes Before Anything Else. . ." Ukraine, Russia, and the Art of Felix Lembersky: Space 2435, North Quad, University of Michigan, 105 South State St. 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Talmud Study with Rabbi Dobrusin (via Zoom): BIC. 4 p.m.

Adult B'nai Mitzvah: TBE. For inquiries, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 5:45 p.m.

Our Golems, Ourselves: EMU. Presents Professor Maya Barzilai will talk about Jewish folklore around the Golem. 7 p.m.

Women's Torah Study: TBE. With questions, contact Cantor Regina Hayut at cantorhayut@templebethemeth.org. 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday 31

Twenty-five-minute Mindfulness with Jewish Spiritual Director Linda Greene: TBE and Pardes Hannah. 8:30 a.m.

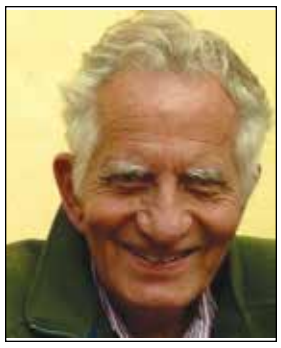
Queer Torah Study: TBE. Join us in person or via Zoom for a discussion of queer themes in the weekly Torah portion! Led by Ari Marcotte and Ari Smith. Guest leaders welcome! Contact Ari M (ari.j.marcotte@gmail.com) for more information. 7 p.m.

Tea and Torah for Women: Chabad. 8 p.m. ■

Obituaries

The WJN prints obituaries, memories, and eulogies free of charge for family members of Washtenaw Jewish community members as a service to the community and to honor the lives of those who have passed away. When local congregations send condolence notices to the WJN, the editor searches for obituaries online. Also, community members are invited to send obituaries to the editor.

Carl Cohen, PhD and professor of philosophy at the University of Michigan, admired and loved by thousands of students and colleagues during his 62 years on the Michigan faculty, died on August 26 at the age of 92. His tenure at Michigan was one of the longest in the history of the university.



Carl joined the University of Michigan faculty in 1955, after completing his PhD at UCLA. He was one of the planners and founding members of the UM Residential College in 1967, a unit within the larger university designed to maintain the spirit of cooperative study. He was the founder, and for 10 years Director, of the Program in Human Values in Medicine at the UM Medical School. He served as Chairman of the UM Senate Advisory Committee on University Affairs (SACUA), and on the Executive Committee of the College of LS&A.

Born in Brooklyn on April 30, 1931, Cohen moved from New York to Miami, Florida, at the age of 12 and attended school there. In 1947 he won a Coca-Cola scholarship to the University of Miami, where he participated actively in its national championship debate team. He graduated summa cum laude in 1951, going on to a Master's degree at the University of Illinois in 1952, and to the University of California Los Angeles where he received his PhD in philosophy in 1955. In the fall of 1955, he began his career at University of Michigan, retiring only after suffering a stroke in 2017. He taught many classes in the UM Residential College, Department of Philosophy, and elsewhere throughout his tenure; even in treatment for that stroke, his doctors, nurses, and physical therapists turned out to include multiple of his former students.

For many years, Cohen was a member of the National Board of Directors of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) and participated as Chair of its Michigan affiliate from 1971–1974. Cohen believed that even the most terrible positions people may hold must not be silenced. He was also an active member of the labor panel of the American Arbitration Association, and he served as a consultant to the Judiciary Committee of the U.S. Senate, the Rockefeller Foundation, the National Humanities Center, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. During sabbaticals and leaves Cohen served as visiting professor of philosophy at universities around the world, including the National University of Singapore, the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, universities in Cuzco and Trujillo in Peru (where he taught in Spanish), Hong Kong University, and the universities of Otago and Victoria in New Zealand.

Cohen's 10 books, translated into many languages, include *Democracy* (1972); *Civil Disobedience*: *Conscience, Tactics and the Law* (1971); *Naked Racial Preference* (1997); *Four Systems* (1982); *Communism, Fascism and Democracy: The Theoretical Foundations* (3rd ed., 1997), *A Conflict of Principles: The Battle over Affirmative Action at the University of Michigan* (2014), and, most recently, *Both Wrong and Bad* (2018). He is coauthor of *The Animal Rights Debate* (with Tom Regan, 2001), *Affirmative Action and Racial Preference* (with James Sterba, 2003), and the most widely used textbook in logic around the globe, *Introduction to Logic* (with Irving Copi), whose 15th edition was published in 2016 (with Victor Rodych).

Cohen also published scores of essays on contemporary philosophical controversies, e.g.: abortion, freedom of speech, conscientious objection, college admission, human subject use, genetic engineering, organ transplantation, and the use of animals in biomedical research, in various periodicals including the *Nation*, the *Civil Liberties Review*, the *New York Times*, the *Journal of Blacks in Higher Education*, the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the *Texas Law Review*, the *Yale Review*, the *Michigan Review*, *Ethics*, and the *New England Journal of Medicine*. Carl's books and articles contributed to the history of American philosophy — and to the personal opinions of many people.

Traveling widely, Carl would often hike solo on remote islands — in Scandinavia (Aland in Finland and Laeso in Denmark), in Britain (Sark, the Isle of Mull and the Isle of Man), in the Mediterranean (Sardinia and Crete), in Japan (Shodoshima), in the South Atlantic (Dominica), and many others, often making lifelong friends during his solo travels whom he would return to visit often. Rarely saying no to an adventure, he also (for instance) hiked Angel's Landing at Zion National Park and all the way down the Grand Canyon at the age of 77, and took a train through the Canadian Rockies, and a boat down the Danube river at the age of 91.

Chess was one of the passions of Carl's early life; he ceased to play competitively when his teaching career began, though he remained a lifelong member of the U.S. Chess Federation. He was a lowbrow astronomer, taking pleasure in the identification, by name, of scores of stars visible to the naked eye in the night sky and teaching the same to his children (and anyone who would listen). A passion that never faded for him was his love of dogs. Former students, now themselves retired, recall with delight the West Highland White Terrier, Hamish, who accompanied him to class for 16 years. There was never a day when the loyalty of his dogs, and his loyalty to them, did not mark the hours. Carl is mourned by three faithful friends: Argos, a mix of Cairn Terrier and poodle; Oskar (named for Oskar Schindler), a Berniedoodle; and the dog he described as the sweetest companion of his life, a Labradoodle named from Lamentations: Chadesh Yameinu KeKedem, renew our days as of old.

Cohen's first marriage to Muriel Milkove was happy, but ended with her death from cancer in 1987. His second marriage, to Jan Schlain, ended in 1999. He is survived by his two children from his second marriage, Jaclyn Cohen and Noah Cohen, his nephews and nieces and their spouses: Matthew Graff (Leslie Lawther), David Graff (Lori Keros-Graff), Miriam Graf (Melvin Graf), Ron Bloom, seven great-nieces-and-nephews, four great-great-nieces and nephews, and many close friends.

Carl's impact on the field of contemporary philosophy, as a teacher, and as a parent and uncle will be felt for decades to come. Alongside his notable intellectual and worldly accomplishments, Carl's exuberant, energetically warm, generous, sometimes provocative, and highly engaged spirit is legendary among all he encountered.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Beth Israel or the University of Michigan Residential College.

Andrea Lynne Meizlish died suddenly after a brief illness on August 12. Andrea was born April 23, 1971, in Flint, Michigan. She graduated from Flint Central High School in 1989 and went on to earn a degree in graphic design and criminal justice from Western Michigan University. Upon graduation, she worked in the commercial and film production industry in Detroit, first at Stratton Camera and then as a highly sought-after freelance production coordinator in the Detroit commercial production community, often working with her friends and colleagues at Avalon Films. Over the years, if you saw a Pure Michigan ad on television or a preflight Delta Airlines safety video, or the 2011 Super Bowl Snickers television ad featuring Aretha Franklin and Liza Minelli, then you saw the results of the enormous time, energy, and talent that Andrea devoted to her work.

Andrea is survived by her father Leonard Meizlish, her sister Debbie Meizlish and brother-in-law Josh Botkin, her beloved nephews Jonah and Benjamin, her aunt Aida Meizlish, and cousin Louis Meizlish (Erin Miller). She is also mourned by her extended family, friends, and colleagues. She was predeceased by her mother Naomi and stepmother Karen, along with her grandparents Max and Lillian Meizlish and William and Grace Lande, who all loved her greatly.

Evelyn Betty Botkin, 83, died on August 16 in Dedham, Massachusetts. She was the matriarch of the Botkin clan and will be greatly missed.

Born in 1940, Evelyn was raised in the Bronx, New York, by her parents, Phil and Ruth Myers. Evelyn graduated from Bronx High School of Science (class of 1957) and Brandeis University (class of 1961). She received a PhD in Clinical Psychology from Yeshiva University and practiced clinical and health psychology in Huntington, New York, for many years.

Evelyn met the love of her life, Eli Botkin, at an evening sculpture class at NYU in 1964. Despite their 15-year age difference, they fell in love and married in 1966. She became the stepmother of Dianne and Brad, then gave birth to Naomi and Josh. In addition to her four children, she had seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. Evelyn lost her Eli in 2020 but regularly updated him about the family's events and accomplishments.

A longtime member of Kehillath Shalom (KS) Synagogue in Cold Spring Harbor, New York, Evelyn was honored by the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation for her contributions to the Jewish community. She served as chair of the Education, Ritual, Long Range Planning, and Social Action committees at KS. She created and led contemplative Shabbat services at KS for several years. She organized interfaith activities with members of the Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and other faith communities on Long Island. She was also a board member of the Huntington Coalition for the Homeless and a founding member and chair of the Suffolk County Interagency Coordinating Committee (SCIACC), which worked to implement needed services for mental health clients in the area. As her activities demonstrate, Evelyn was deeply committed to the Jewish concept of tikkun olam, repairing the world.

Evelyn was a prodigious reader, primarily of books related to Judaism and Buddhism. She described herself as, "a Jewish woman who has learned a great deal from Buddhism, practices Buddhist (Vipassana) meditation, and is inspired by both traditions to be engaged in trying to make the world a better place." She said, "While I am basically Jewish and my values derive from Judaism, the skillful means for training my mind and the wonderful life lessons/philosophy of Buddhist teachings have been life-changing gifts for which I am profoundly grateful."

Evelyn spent the last nine years of her life as a resident of NewBridge on the Charles in Dedham, Massachusetts, where she continued her involvement in social action activities. At the time of her death, she was helping to plan another interfaith dinner – the latest in a series she had helped create and lead over the past decade.

By gracefully accepting her declining health and constantly expressing gratitude for her life and those around her, Evelyn served as a role model for her family and friends.

Evelyn is survived by her children (Dianne Lior, Bradley Botkin, Naomi Botkin, Joshua Botkin); her daughters-in-law (Renee Robins, Deborah Meizlish); her son-in-law (Joshua Gordon); her grandchildren (Dotan, Atar, Elijah, Noah, Jonah, Susannah, Benjamin); and her great-grandchildren (Anya, Esme, Ari, Kai). She was predeceased by Eli, her husband of 54 years.

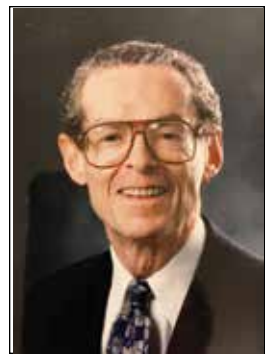
Dr. Sylvia Gordon, 79, passed away peacefully on August 23, after a long-standing illness. Born in Lakewood, New Jersey, on May 5, 1944, Sylvia was a longtime resident of Michigan, and lived and worked the past 40 years in Ann Arbor. Sylvia grew

up in Lakewood, New Jersey, and attended Adelphi University, Boston University, and Oakland University, earning her doctorate in Clinical Psychology. As an accomplished clinical psychologist and coauthor, Sylvia was a foundational support to many families and an expert in the field of marital counseling . Sylvia was devoted to her career and clients and worked until 2019. Sylvia also maintained an active role within the local community. She earnestly volunteered for organizations such as "Active Against ALS!" and led a workshop on depression at the Jewish Community Center.

Eugene (Gene) Shore was born on May 14, 1934, to Hyman and Rose Shore in Brooklyn, New York. Gene was a curious person by nature and declared several different majors while attending Brooklyn College, including engineering and education. None of those majors excited him, and he was contemplating a break from college when he stumbled upon psychology and found it fascinating. After completing his undergraduate degree, he attended Pennsylvania State University where he graduated with a PhD in psychology in 1963. Gene then worked as a clinical psychologist at Albert Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia.

In 1970, Gene began moderating focus groups part-time. He enjoyed talking with consumers and analyzing their thoughts and behavior, and then applying those insights to the marketing aspect of brand building. He became so successful at moderating focus groups and making recommendations to clients that he started his own business, Gene Shore Associates, in Haverford. Gene was the psychology and marketing brains behind the business, and his wife Bobbie kept the books and made sure clients' favorite foods and drinks were always available.

Utilizing psychology to understand not only consumer behavior but what makes people tick is now a foundational element of marketing, but Gene was a visionary in this regard. His client roster included Fortune 500 companies and brands like General Foods, Pepsi, and Nabisco.



Gene was a devoted husband to Roberta (Bobbie), his wife of 66 years. Bobbie was the love of his life and he made sure she was well cared for until her recent passing, after some years of living with dementia. Gene was a loving father to his daughters and he delighted in his three grandchildren. Gene is survived by his daughters Randi Quinn (Randy) and Pam Shore (Rena Seltzer), his grandchildren Alix Quinn and Isaac and Elijah Shore, his brother Marty Shore and sister-in-law Shelley Shore, as well as his nieces and nephews.

The family is incredibly grateful for the assistance provided by a host of home health attendants. We especially want to express our heartfelt appreciation for the devoted care from Nicketa (Nicky) Williams and Ronda Thornton. Nicky has been with Gene and Bobbie for 10 years and Ronda joined the care team in 2018. Gene came to depend on Nicky's organizational skills, practicality, and quiet counsel to help him with day to day tasks and decisions. During the COVID-19 shutdown, Ronda, along with Nicky, helped to provide a connection and window to the outside world, and continued to care for him as his health declined.

Tenacious, optimistic, and full of life, Sylvia was loving to her family and friends. Sylvia was courageous throughout the duration of her illness and received much sup-

Simchas and Sorrows

The Washtenaw Jewish community sends condolences to the families of:

Seymour Brieloff, father of George (Sally) Brieloff, grandfather of Katie and Stephen (Stephanie), and great grandfather of Mae, August 4.

Sally Hirsch, mother of Sheryl Hirsch (Jack Billi), grandmother of Andrew Billi (Alexa Bush), Allison Billi (Adam Markovitz), and great-grandmother of Anna and Avery, Mischa and Chiara, August 9.

Michelle R. Warner, sister-in-law of Jan Warner (Shoshana Mandel-Warner), wife of Jan's bother, Scott, mother of Eli Warner, and aunt of Kayla Mandel, August 9.

Andrea Lynne Meizlish, sister of Deborah Meizlish, August 12.

Evelyn Botkin, mother of Josh Botkin, August 16.

Joyce June Kurz, mother of Keith Kurtz, August 16.

Eugene Shore, father of Pam Shore, August 19.

Joy Rome, mother of Sally Goldberg, August 19.

Sylvia Gordon, mother of Jenny Gordon, August 23.

Carl Cohen, uncle of Matthew Graff (Leslie Lawther). August 26.

Isadore Fisher, the father of Amanda Fisher, September 6. ■

The Washtenaw Jewish community sends mazel tovs to:

Sarah Juster, daughter of TBE members Deborah and Harvey Juster, and PhD student in the department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation at Virginia Tech, who received a Fulbright scholarship to support her research in agroforestry to improve living conditions in Ugandan refugee camps.

Anika and Iain Austad on their b'nei mitzvah, October 21.

Jonathan Primus on his bar mitzvah, October 28.

Levi Stewart on his bar mitzvah, October 28. ■

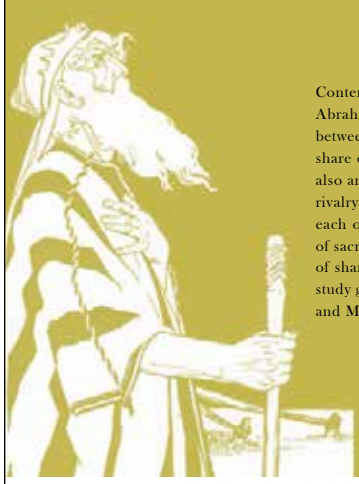
Padnos Public Engagement on Jewish Learning Event

Abrahamic Vernaculars:
Rivals Thinking Together

October 17, 7pm
to be followed by a light reception at 8:30pm.
This is a hybrid lecture. See registration link below.

Hager Auditorium (Room 119)
Cook-Devos Center for Health Sciencesr
Grand Valley State University
301 Michigan St NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Dr. Rebecca Scharbach Wollenberg, *University of Michigan*



Contemporary media often emphasizes the competitive nature of the Abrahamic monotheisms. This is not entirely unjustified. Relations between Jews, Christians, and Muslims have certainly included their share of religious wars, theological polemic, and oppression. Yet there is also another side to the Abrahamic coin. Even in the midst of communal rivalry, Jewish, Christian and Muslim practitioners have often turned to each other to think through religious concepts, elucidate a shared sense of sacred history, and enrich their ritual practices. From the development of shared ritual practices surrounding childbirth to ecumenical medieval study groups, this talk explores historical moments when Jews, Christians, and Muslim have done their religious thinking together.

Registration
gvsu.edu/interfaith/padnos

M | LSA JEAN & SAMUEL FRANKEL CENTER FOR JUDAIC STUDIES UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY KAUFMAN INTERFAITH INSTITUTE

The University of Michigan greatly values inclusion and access for all. We are pleased to provide reasonable accommodations to enable your full participation in this event. Please contact js-event-coord@umich.edu if you would like to request disability accommodations or have any questions or concerns. We ask that you provide advance notice to ensure sufficient time to meet requested accommodations.

LSA.UMICH.EDU/JUDAIC • JUDAICSTUDIES@UMICH.EDU • 734.763.9047

2023 WALLENBERG MEDAL & LECTURE

The Fight for Fair Food and the Future of Worker-driven Social Responsibility

Lucas Benitez

Co-founder of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023 • 7:30PM

RACKHAM AUDITORIUM
WALLENBERG.UMICH.EDU

M | WALLENBERG LEGACY MEDAL & LECTURE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Unexpected Gifts: Reimagining Jewish Education

A Conference to Honor the Uncommon Contributions of Harlene Winnick Appelman z"l

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15 2023

1:00-5:30pm
1080 S.University Ave. UM School of Social Work
Unexpected Gifts of Children's Thinking
Disrupted Expectations: Challenging Preconceptions through Art and Music

6:00-9:00pm
1429 Hill Street - Michigan Hillel
Dinner provided with RSVP by October 2.
Musical performance by Sarah Aroeste
Keynote remarks by
Rabba Yaffa Epstein

Scan QR Code to RSVP

Presented by the Jewish Communal Leadership Program
University of Michigan School of Social Work

With support from the Covenant Foundation,The Frankel Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Michigan, the Mandell L. and Madeleine H. Berman Foundation, the Jewish Federation of Greater Ann Arbor, Michigan Hillel, Center for Jewish Studies at Eastern Michigan University, Hebrew Day School of Ann Arbor.